CALIFORNIA MINING JOURNAL.

DEVOTED TO MINING, MISCELLANEOUS LITERATURE, THE USEFUL ARTS AND SCIENCES.

VOLUME 1. GRASS VALLEY, AUGUST 1, 1856. NUMBER 5.

California Mining Journal,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY,

At Grass Valley, Nevada County, Cal.

TERMS.

One Dollar and a half per annum in advance. Single copies 25 cents each.

☞ All letters and communications should be directed to "W. B. EWER, Grass Valley, Cal.

W. B. EWER, EDITOR.

AGENTS.

J. E. HAMLIN, Bookseller, corner of Broad and Pine streets, is our authorized Agent to transact business for this Office in Nevada, and throughout all the upper portions of the County.

Gardner & Kirk are our Agents in Sacramento.—They may be found at the Post Office Literary Depot, Third st., next door to the Post Office.

Mr. L. P. Dixon is our sole Agent in San Francisco. He is empowered to receive advertisements, and receipt for the same. He may be found at his desk in the Iron Building, opposite the Pacific Express Office, up Stairs.

H. CASE,.....Traveling Agent.

THE DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE PAST AND PRESENT AGE.—The age which has most recently passed into the domain of history, was peculiarly distinguished for its great men and brilliant minds. Newton, Shakespeare, Milton, Napoleon, Franklin and Washington, have left their impress upon the age which will continue to grow brighter and brighter through all coming time.—The brilliant intellects of some of them and the God-like manhood of others, commanded the adoration of a world. That age has passed away—it expired with the lives of Clay and Webster. It was the age of intellectuality. As it grew dim with its declining sun, a new era dawned upon the world. It was the age of discovery—the age of practicality. In the progress of the Arts and Sciences this present age is immeasurably superior to any former one. The present century stands pre-eminent in its wonderful discoveries, both in mechanics and science. Steam has been fairly subdued and harnessed so as to obey the slightest will of man. It is alike subservient whether for the performance the most delicate manipulations of mechanical pursuits, or for driving with its giant arms and untiring nerves the huge palaces which modern skill has set afloat upon the ocean highways. A tongue has been furnished for the forked lightning, by which it is made to speak the thoughts of man thousands of miles away from the mind which conceives them. The very light of heaven has been pressed into service, and is made to leave its mark at the will of man. The innumerable fields of space, which a few years since the *thoughts* of man could scarcely penetrate, are now brought into a practical nearness, and their distances, localities and properties are accurately measured, mapped and calculated. Verily the present may be most emphatically considered an age of practicality, while that which preceded it was an age of intellectuality.

NEVADA CITY FLOURING MILLS.—This establishment under the proprietorship and direction of Mr. Tilley, is now in full and successful operation. We acknowledge the reception of a couple of sacks of flour from the establishment, for which the proprietor will please accept thanks. We have not yet had an opportunity to visit the mill since it started, but shall do so at the first opportunity, when we shall again allude to it. The reputation which Mr. Tilley acquired in this place as a manufacturer of flour, must secure for him a full run of business. We believe the capacity of this mill is fully equal to the supply of wheat in this market. The citizens of Nevada county fully appreciate the efforts of Mr. T. in supplying them with the best quality and a pure and unadulterated article for the "staff of life."

Awful Conflagration!

TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE!!

Nevada City in Ashes!!!

It is with feelings of the most sincere regret that we are called upon to record the almost total destruction of Nevada by fire. Saturday's sun rose and passed its zenith bright and glorious over that beautiful and prosperous town—the gem of the mountains, the pride and boast of the mines. That day's sun went down gloomily amid the murky atmosphere, his face barely visible through the black cloud of smoke and ashes into which that bright city had been so suddenly changed. All that now remains of Nevada, save a few scattered dwellings on the extreme outskirts, are *six* of her late twenty-eight, (so called) fire proof buildings. Every Hotel, every Church, every Banking-house, every provision store in town, save one, is now a heap of blackened, smouldering ruins! The new Court House, which had just been completed at a cost of $53,000, together with all the County Records, the papers of the Sheriff's office, and the two Justice's offices are all destroyed—not a memorandum left. Both newspaper offices, with all their contents, and the Post Office with its letters were also burned. Some 500 buildings, covering a space of 50 or 60 acres have been utterly swept away. The destruction is most complete. Such an utter and complete *wiping out* of a town has never before been recorded. It may most truthfully and emphatically be said of our late prosperous and flourishing neighbor—*Nevada fuit.*

LOSS OF LIFE.

Great and severe, however, as has been the pecuniary loss, there is yet another sacrifice which they more deeply deplore. Buried beneath the ruins are the bones of seven of her best and most beloved citizens. No less than *seven* individuals are known to have perished, viz:

A. J. Hagan, Banker, from Louisville, Kentucky.

Jay Johnson, Surveyor from Buffalo N. Y.

S. W. Fletcher, late District Attorney, from Lyttleton, Mass.

William B. Pearson, Printer, from Mass.

All of these individuals perished in Davis' Brick Banking House. They had remained in the building to make it secure until the flames had cut off their retreat. One person, Mr. Bean, saved himself by jumping from the second story window, almost into the very midst of the approaching flames.

Peter Hendrickson, merchant, from Albany, New York, shot himself in his store and perished with its contents.

Mr. John Yates, from Dubuque, Iowa, met his death in the same way in his store on Commercial street.

The remains of a man were found amid the ruins of the Polka on Broad street, which could not be recognized.

It is almost certain that several others perished, as they were seen in positions from whence they could not escape. Their names have not been ascertained.

Mr. —— Wilson, a brick mason, and Mr. Thomas were so badly burned that they both died within twenty-four hours.

Mr. Anderson, editor of the Democrat, was severely burned. He is now however improving.

Mr. Geo. A. Young is also very severely burned. Mrs. Young and Mrs. Caswell, the lady of Judge Caswell barely escaped with their lives.

Many others were more or less severely burned and otherwise injured.

PLACES OF BUSINESS SAVED.

The only buildings left standing on the burnt district are the fire-proofs of Dr. Bicknell, on Broad street, the lower story of which is occupied by Moses Teal & Co., and A. Alexander. The upper stories are occupied by Lawyers and other offices.

Dr. W. G. Alban's building corner of Broad and Pine sts., occupied by J. E. Hamlin, Periodical Depot, and A. H. Wick's, Apothecary; the second story is used for offices, &c.

Mr. Landecker's building, on Commercial street, occupied as a Grocery by Messrs. Mayers & Co., withstood the fire nobly. Not a thing was injured.

The Crockery store of Mr. Crittenden on Main street, the second story of which was occupied for offices, was saved without injury, as was also the Drug store of Dr. Lark adjoining.

Mr. Myers, successor to Epenchied, at the corner of Main and Commercial street, also saved his store and stock.

SINGULAR CASE.

One of the most singular cases of escape from fire was a small brick building on the hill near the Court House, entirely surrounded with wooden buildings. This building was occupied by Mr. Dickenson, as a paper hanger and sewing machine establishment, and was protected by wooden doors only, which are completely *charred* all over. We can account for its escape only on the hupothesis, that the surrounding wooden buildings, which were very light, were quickly swept away, and the wind, which at this late season of the year had taken the character of a whirlwind, of great violence, fairly *blew out the fire* which had fastened to the doors.

THE COURT HOUSE AND JAIL PRISONERS.

The walls of the Court house, which are standing entire with their interior completely burnt out, stands as the most imposing monument of the fire. It looks like an ancient ruin, and strongly reminds us of the old Convent ruins at Charlestown, Mass.; or to the similar ruinous resulting from the Philadelphia riots, which took place soon after those at Charlestown. The building was a beautiful one, the finest of the kind in the State. The walls, together with the cells underneath, are supposed to be but little injured. The prisoners were saved with the greatest difficulty. Both the Sheriff and Capt. Day, County Surveyor, ran a narrow chance for their lives. The Sheriff indeed was saved only through the exertions of one of the prisoners who was confined on charge of murder, and whose cell door he had just opened.

Out of some 29 or 30 buildings supposed to be fire proof, but six have been saved.

A considerable amount of goods was saved in the fire proof vaults and cellars. The safes of the banks, stores and Banking-houses have been opened, and their contents, we believe all found safe.

NOT DISCOURAGED.

Crushed to the very earth, and borne down with a heavy weight of sorrow at the loss of so many of their citizens, several of their most prized and beloved ones, our neighbors, nevertheless, are in no wise discouraged. In less than twenty hours after the fire broke out, parties of men were seen in every direction all over the ruins, scraping away the ashes and burning timbers, preparatory to the erection of temporary shelters and places of business. With that indomitable spirit of recuperative energy, so peculiar to all Californians, we have the fullest confidence that the city of Nevada will soon rise, like the fabled phœnix, from its ashes, and with more beauty and a greater view to permanence than before.

The sound of the axe and the hammer is everywhere heard amid the ruins.

Messrs Kidd & Knox are already clearing away preparatory to the erection of a new brick, on the corner of Broad and Pine sts. (Davis' Corner.). The building will be 77 X 60. Messrs Z. P. Davis, Geo. A. Young and Sanford Hoyt & Co. on Broad st. are already making preparations for rebuilding; so also are Messrs Coleman, Simons, Mulford, Rosenheim and Rogers on Main st., and Messrs Kelsey, Yates and Franz & Co. on Commercial st.

These gentlemen all lost brick buildings, that were considered fire-proof. The interior of all these buildings, with their contents, was destroyed, but the walls are left standing, and in such condition as to be mainly saved.

THE NEWSPAPERS.

We sincerely sympathize with our cotemporories of the *Democrat* and *Journal* in their loss, and are most happy to state that they have already taken steps for the purchase of new material and the speedy re-establishment of their respective papers.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE.

The fire broke out about half past three P. M., in Mr. Hughes' blacksmith shop, on Pine street, and spread with an almost incredible quickness over the entire town.—The wind was very high at the time and soon increased to a perfect whirlwind. We subjoin as full and correct a list of individual losses as we have yet been able to collect.—We shall issue another edition the last of the week in which we shall endeavor to give a more full and perfect record. The few dwellings and cabins left in the suburbs are full of families, and many have gone to the neighboring towns. Though the late proud city of Nevada is completely destroyed, the motto of her citizens is still *nil desperandum.*

List of Sufferers.

Rogers, Hamilton & Coy	$40,000
Hirschman & Bro	10,000
Mr. Rice, hat store	6,000
Metropolis Hotel and furniture	9 000
Wells, Fargo & Co	1,900
A. A. Sargent	4,000
Dr. Lark	800
Rosenheim & Brus	25,000
L. P. Frisbie, Theater Saloon	25,000
Simon Rosenthal & Bro	40,000
Sol. Kohlman & Bro., clothing	8,000
C. Josephson	18,000
A. Block & Co., clothing	25,000
L. Samuel, buildings and cigars	10,000
N P Brown & Co., Journal office	10,000
Harvey Helm, Empire Stables	3,000
S. W. Grush restaurant	8,000
J. H Bostwick, dwelling	8,000
I J Rolfe, Democrat office	8,000
Richard Gray, U. S. Hotel	12,000
Steifel & Cohn, dry goods	9,000
E. F. Connor & Co., general wardrobe	7,000
Worthington & Bently	1,500
William Hughes	2,000
Dr. Rudulph druggist	3,000
Dr. R. N. Hunt, two buildings	2,000
A D Skillman, brick building	7,000
John Grier, brick building	7,000
John Anderson, law library	5,000
G W Hill, law library &c	5,000
Tom & Dan's buildings	2,000
Horace Ferre, building	3,000
Geo A Young	25,000
Teal & Co	5,000
Davidson & Stevens, furniture &c	2,000
J. F. Stone building and furniture	2,000
Z. P. Davis, brick building, &c	15,000
A. O. Felt, public funds	15,000
John Williams, water works	4,000
E. W. Smith, Union Hotel	4,000
Boswell & Hanson, merchandize	5,000
L Sweeney, restaurant	2,000
S Lewis & Co., cigar shop	1,000
Mrs Holdridge, dwelling, &c	2,000
Dr Von Pentalz	2,500
J Monroe, butcher shop	2,500
De W J Knox	5,000
Five churches	30,000
W Dreifress bakery	3,500
W. C. Asher, notes and accounts	3,000
S Davis, Metropolis Stables	3,000
T B Sigourney, goods	2,000
Hirschman & Bro. building & stock	15,000
H C Gardner, lawyer	2,000
F Schotte	3,000
G W Kinney, building and stock	15,000
T Marsh, building, paints, &c	6,000
Stiles' estate, buildings &c	10,000
L P Stills, furniture, &c	1,500
E Wise, building, &c	6,000
Mrs Hastings	4,000
J M Flurshutz brick building, &c	18,000
A Johns, brick building	10,000
Judge Searles, dwelling, &c	2,500
Frank Dunn, dwelling &c	3,000
Judge Buckner, dwelling, &c	2,500
B F Collier, building, &c	10,000
J Julien, mountain crockery store	5,000
Chambers & Goodrich, butchers	4,000
Jacobis & Co., books and stock	2,000
C Kent, building	3,000
Northouse & Singer, cigar store	5,000
King, brick store	4,000
J M Levey	2,000
Pearson & Healey U S Hotel furniture	3,700
C H Seymour	5,000
G O Kilburn, daguerrian gallery	10,000
Lochman & Bros	12,000
Wm Orr, buildings	10,000
Nevada County Court House	60,000
W H Endicott, Postmaster	3,300
R F McCoon	6,000
J C & H P Dickerman	6,000
Capt John Dey, surveyor	1,500
J Churchill, three buildings	1,800
Mrs Bullington, house &c	2,500
T Buckner two buildings &c	4,000
Ovid Cheval, Hotel De Paris	10,000
John Blasauf	2,000
E W Smith, Union Hotel	5,000
Geo Rogers saloon	500
C A Tweed	1,200
Chas Lupton, restaurant	2,300
Dr. Alban, buildings	8,000
Abbott & Edwards	42,000
Lewis & Rosenbaum	9,000
A. Man, Golden Gate Alleys	5,500
Rogers & Dinsmore, billiard saloon	4,000
C. W. Mulford, banker	10,000

(Concluded on last page.)

California Mining Journal.

GRASS VALLEY, AUG. 4, 1856.

Taxing Mining Claims.

The Attorney General has issued a circular to the County Assessors, which we have elsewhere published, in which he informs them that miners' claims are liable to taxation.—This 'opinion" *may* be in accordance with the law, yet, we question whether it can be carried into practice. Mr. Wallace does not say how claims shall be assessed—whether the ground, whether the improvements, or whether the profits should be appraised. We will not stop to enquire whether the State has any legal right to levy a tax upon the mineral lands which belong exclusively to the United States, but simply ask how the Assessors are to arrive at the value of claims. By the size? by the amount expended? or by the average monthly earnings? If by the two former, any assessment will be manifestly unjust; if by the latter, why should a miner who earns his $2 to $10 or more per day, be assessed any more than the mechanic who earns his five dollars a day, or the lawyer who squeezes *his* ample fee from his client. The value of mining ground is fictitious. It can be ascertained only by working; and how much some of us have expended upon ground which has proved worthless we know to our cost! To tax improvements, which we infer to include the sinking of shafts, the running of tunnels, &c., would be as impolitic as unjust, for the simple reason that more money has been thus expended than has been realized. To tax a miners' income, great or small, and exempt the income of lawyers, tax collectors, governors and officials, would be equally unjust. "LET THE MINES BE AS FREE AS AIR," said Governor Bigler, when he was anxious to secure the votes of the miners to place him in the Gubernatorial chair. "Let the mines be as free as air" we now repeat. Let its echo be heard on every hill-top and gulch throughout the State.

BROWN'S VALLEY.—We learn from a gentleman recently from Brown's Valley, Yuba County, that the mill recently erected there by Messrs. Rule & Co., is doing an excellent business. They are running nine stamps, with steam power, and crush from 16 to 20 tons of rock per day. The gold is very fine, and their rock is thoroughly pulverized. They are crushing from the Pennsylvania lead, which ranges from four to six feet in thickness, is easy to mine, and averages about $18 to the ton. The cost of mining is so light that that yield pays a handsome profit.

Three lots of gold sent to the Assay Office, yielded as follows:

81.27	oz	yielded 80.66 oz	899. fine
176.43	oz	" 175.42 oz	899. "
194.20	oz	" 192.75 oz	902. "

About one mile from the Valley, at the mouth of Dry Creek, there is a water mill, running eight stamps. Sir Henry Huntley also has a mill in the Valley. Mr. Huntley's mill we believe is not running. We are not advised as to the water mill. The supply of water for the latter generally gives out, about the 1st of July, at which time they are necessarily compelled to suspend operations.

THE SINK OF THE HUMBOLDT.—We learn from the Placerville American that every immigrant so far, this season, bears testimony to the fact, that the river of the desert, along which so many of the wearied and worn make their way, is this year lower than ever before known. The "Sink" as it is termed, is entirely dried up. The last good water therefore to be had, previous to crossing the desert, is at the "Meadows," twenty miles above the Lake, which is the terminus of the river for this year, and even in this, the water is rapidly receding from its shores; not a drop runs out of it towards the "Sink," or sand plains. The consequence will be a drive of fifty or sixty miles without water for animals fit for their use, or hardly a blade of grass. This, in 1850, was the cause of immense losses of stock.

THE DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE PAST AND PRESENT AGE.—The age which has most recently passed into the domain of history, was peculiarly distinguished for its great men and brilliant minds. Newton, Shakespeare, Milton, Napoleon Franklin and Washington, have left their impress upon the age which will continue to grow brighter and brighter through all coming time.—The brilliant intellects of some of them and the God-like manhood of others, commanded the adoration of a world. That age has passed away—it expired with the lives of Clay and Webster. It was the age of intellectuality. As it grew dim with its declining sun, a new era dawned upon the world. It was the age of discovery—the age of practicality. In the progress of the Arts and Sciences the present age is immeasurably superior to any former one. The present century stands pre-eminent in its wonderful discoveries, both in mechanics and science. Steam has been fairly subdued and harnessed so as to obey the slightest will of man. It is alike subservient whether for the performance the most delicate manipulations of mechanical pursuits, or for driving with its giant arms and nutting nerves the huge palaces which modern skill has set afloat upon the ocean highways. A tongue has been furnished for the forked lightning, by which it is made to speak the thoughts of man thousands of miles away from the mind which conceives them. The very light of heaven has been pressed into service, and is made to leave its mark at the will of man. The innumerable fields of space, which a few years since the *thoughts* of man could scarcely penetrate, are now brought into a practical nearness, and their distances, localities and properties are accurately measured, mapped and calculated. Verily the present may be most emphatically considered an age of practicality, while that which preceded it was an age of intellectuality.

ANOTHER FIRESIDE.—Mr. J. L. Crossett, who has recently returned from the East with his family, is building a cottage on Church St. Thus genially the fireside is growing around us. May they still continue to increase, until all our citizens who are blessed with families at the East, shall have transferred them to their adopted State. It has always been a matter of wonder to us why so small a number of our business men come among us with the view of making California a permanent home. The absence of good schools, and those advantages of social intercourse to which they have been formerly accustomed, can no longer be seriously urged as an objection, in most of our principal cities and towns. We can safely include Grass Valley as one of the favored ones in this particular, and we sincerely hope, that all of our business men who have families at a distance, or who ever have any thought of making themselves happy and useful to the State, will follow the example recently set them by several of their associates, and do something more than merely *pitch their tents* in California. Let them set to work at once, and rear for themselves family altars, and place upon them the *Lares* and *Penates* of their households. When this is generally done we shall build up a community and a State of which we may well be proud. We shall create for ourselves and our posterity a home and a true home, which shall be blest with all the hallowed associations of parents, kindred and social relations, the absence of which we now so generally lament. Go to friends; those only are prospered who strive to help themselves.

TO BE ELECTED.—The Officers to be elected by the State at large at the ensuing election, are two members of Congress, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Clerk of Supreme Court, and four Presidential electors. The election will take place Tuesday, November 4th.

LIBERTY AT A DISCOUNT.—None of the copper money of France will be legal tender after the first of October next, that is impressed with the head of liberty.

PREVENTION OF STEAM BOILER EXPLOSIONS.—Notwithstanding the great amount of information which has been published on steam boiler explosions, accidents of this nature are frequently occurring all over the country. These accidents are mostly the result of carelessness, often, however, of ignorance. Every shop, building, or place where there is a boiler, should have the following paragraph conspicuously posted up, where it may be often read and always in mind; by so doing many accidents might be avoided.

"Every steam boiler should have a good water guage on it; also a steam pressure guage. These must be watched constantly. There should also be three try cocks on each boiler, and these should be tried often. The water should never be allowed to fall below the second cock. The safety valve should also be tried often, to see that it is free, as it sometimes sticks in its seat. If from any cause whatever, the water should fall below the bottom of the guage glass, draw the fires at once; but if the plates should have become red hot before this has been noticed, and the fires cannot be drawn with safety close the dampers at once, and on no account let water into the boiler. If the engine is not at work in such a case, it must not be started, nor must the safety valve, nor any valve be opened. The boiler in such cases, should be left undisturbed until it has gradually cooled down."

THE GRASSHOPPERS—WHERE THEY COME FROM.—The Franklin (Tenn.) Review has the following:—"Our young friend R. H. Hodgens, who resides upon the Big Harpeth, six or seven miles above Franklin, brought into our office on Monday, an apple (we don't know whit else to call it) grown upon a hickory tree, in the hollow of which were myriads of small grasshoppers. He was fishing on the river, and found the ball or apple growing upon the tree, and on opening one of them he found it inhabited by thousands upon thousands of these little troublesome creatures.

IMPORTANT DECISION.—The following case was tried before Justice Daugerfield, of the District Court, at Bidwell, Butte county, last week:

Horatio Wilson et al vs. S. P. Garlow et al—ejectment and damages. Verdict for plaintiffs.

This was a suit for the possession of a quartz claim. The attorneys sought to introduce rules and regulations of miners for the purpose of establishing a right to the same, and the Court refused to permit them to do so, deciding that the rules and regulations of miners can never divest a right, but that when *actual possession of a portion* of a claim was proved, that the rules and regulations of miners might be given for the purpose of proving the *extent* of the claim, but that a rule of miners could not give a *constructive* possession, so as to oust an *actual possessor* or occupant.

A small keg, bound with brass hoops, filled with gold pieces to the amount of 1,000,000 (probably francs,) believed to have been a French military chest, buried there in 1813 to hide it from the Russian Cossacks, has been found by a Russian peasant boy near Sowez, on the Vistula.

MORE BIG TREES.—The editor of the Santa Cruz Sentinel has been prospecting among the Redwoods. He finds a tree in Sayante Valley 52 feet in circumference, and three hundred feet high, by accurate measurement. He learns there are taller trees in the same valley.

THEY ARE COMING.—The Placerville American says that from private advices received by Californians from their friends East, it is apparent and certain that a much larger immigration overland will roll in during summer than has been anticipated.

GOOD WAGES.—Messrs. Mason & Foster, at Volcanic, took out of their claim in one month $3,874 with three hands.

WATER PROOF VARNISH.—M. Caignet, of Paris, has obtained a patent for making a varnish which, when applied to a cotton, cloth, or any other textile fabric will make it water proof. It is composed of one hundred parts linseed oil, thirty five of coal oil, two of mineral pitch, five of rosin, five of wood tar, ten of mutton suet, one of lamp black to color it, two of alum, and two of litharge. These are all boiled together for two hours and applied while warm with a brush.

THE CHEMISTRY OF FOOD.—Liebeg has been lecturing recently at Munich, the capital of Bavaria, upon the chemistry of food. A correspondent of the New York Tribune furnishes the following abstract of the views of the great chemist in regard to the particular merits of beer:

Beer is worthless for the formation of blood; it is of a value only to support respiration and to supply warmth. The nitrogenous portion of the barley becomes soluble in brewing, passes off in the sweet beer, and is separated partly by boiling and partly by fermentation, as less. A little of the drugs remain; the brewer makes as little as possible, or else the beer sours easily. A chemist of Munich eleven years ago asserted that our brown beer contained gum, two grains to the quart. Throwing out of account the nitrogen which appears in beer in the form of ammoniacal salts, and estimating only that which it presents as gum, a man who drinks eleven pints of beer per day would get no more gum in a whole year than five pound loaf of bread furnishes. Beer serves to make people fat who are thin in flesh; it has no value in supplying warmth, but not in the formation of blood. It has its use also as a means of enjoyment and as a stimulant to the nerves; but that does not come into the account of chemistry; chemistry can only say what must never be recommended with bread instead of beer. Liebig intimated, in conclusion, that the best proportions of food for use were one of nitrogen to three of carbon—the proportions in woman's milk.

RESOURCES OF CALIFORNIA.—Senator Weller made the following remarks on the introduction of his Wagon Road bill:

Instead of looking to you any longer for breadstuffs, we were able last year to export some 3,500,000 worth of flour, and we also sent several cargoes of wheat to New York. One would suppose that this fact would suffice to show our friendship for the rest of the continent that California is one of the richest agricultural States in the Union; and, notwithstanding the difference in the price of labor, we are able to compete with you. In the amount of small grain raised to the acre I am confident that no State in the Union will compare with it. In the number of horses and mules California is exceeded by only three or four other States, whilst in cattle she is only surpassed by seven States. In wheat there were only nine States which produced more in 1855; whilst New York alone produced a larger quantity of barley. Sixteen States of the Union produced smaller quantities of potatoes than ours; and no State yielded so many gallons of wine. In the aggregate of live stock only fourteen States surpass us.

In 1854 there was imported into San Francisco merchandize to the value of $100,000,000—more than the whole amount of goods imported into the United States fourteen years ago. In point of commerce that city is ranked as third in our Union, and in her harbor are usually to be seen more vessels than in the port of any other city of this country except New York. This city, although five times destroyed by fire, will now compare favorably with any other city of this Republic. In her schools, in her churches, her public institutions—in all that dignifies and ennobles human nature, she has made more rapid advances during the last five years than any other city in the world. Located on the best harbor on the eastern side of the Pacific, San Francisco, the greatest city on that coast before the lapse of a quarter of a century, if this road is constructed, will become the formidable rival of New York. Indeed, I venture the prediction that, within the lifetime of some who now hear me, the American commerce on the Pacific will far exceed that on the Atlantic."

THE EARTH'S INTERIOR.—In an article in the *Bibliotheca Sacra*, the writer, Mr. Means, says it is generally admitted by geologists that certain chemical combinations in the earlier period of the earth's formation produced combustion, the result being a melted incandescent body, which, by a radiation, became solid in the exterior only; thus a solid crust was formed covering a burning fluid mass. The proof adduced for this interior fire are volcanoes, hot springs, and the increase of heat in deep mines. It is also asserted by the advocates of this theory that the sun, on account of its immense size, has not yet cooled down to the condition of our globe, but is passing slowly into that condition; hence a period must arrive—if true—when the sun will cease to give light, and when it will become a dark body.

CALIFORNIA HONEY.—Some doubts have existed whether honey could be produced in California. The doubt is removed. A gentleman in San Jose Valley has twenty hives, producing from 100 to 150 per month. The bees were, of course, imported.—Petaluma Journal.

The Pacific Rail Road—California Extension.

A letter from T. D. Judah, late engineer of the Sacramento Valley Railroad, and dated May 17th, at Washington City, is published in the Marysville Herald. It gives a glowing account of the prospects of the Pacific Railroad in Congress. Thinks there is little doubt of the passage of the bill introduced by General Denver. This bill proposes to have the government give thirty sections, or 12,-200 acres of land to the mile of railroad, which Mr. Judah thinks is sufficient to secure the completion of the road. As Mr. Judah is an able and experienced engineer, his opinions may be considered valuable. He is enthusiastic in his calculation that the road will start at Benecia and pass by way of Marysville, and that the thirty sections to the mile would build the section of the road in this State to Noble's pass.

In order to get the full benefit of Mr. Denver's bill, it is proposed by Mr. Judah to form an extension Railroad Company in California which shall connect at both ends of the present Sacramento Valley Railroad, continuing that road westward to Benecia, and eastward and northward to Shasta. It is also proposed to connect Marysville direct with the Sacramento and Benecia road, by a junction at or near Putah Creek, in Yolo County. This extension road is to connect with the main Pacific trunk at Noble's Pass. The organization, so far as this State is concerned, is nearly, if not quite completed, and the necessary papers deposited with the Secretary of State.

Three of the main Atlantic lines have signified a willingness to consolidate for the construction of the grand trunk road across the Plains, which under their guidance will find its way across the continent by the central route and come into this State probably by the pass above mentioned. The project is a grand one, and there is now a strong probability that it will be at once undertaken.

TIMBUCTOO.—A correspondent at Timbuctoo writes as follows:—"This flourishing mining section progresses with the age.—The ringing saw and clattering hammer betoken the busy workmen, both in the village and diggings. A good substantial stone building is in course of erection by Mr. Boyd, and many brick buildings will be erected this summer. Two companies are making bricks out of mud formerly in the reservoirs from the settlings of Deer Creek waters which bid fair to make a first quality article. Messrs. McAllis, Stewart & Winans, of Rough & Ready celebrity, have put in their sluice 18 by 20—2,750-feet long, for the purpose of more fully washing the upper strata of cement. The bottom cement or blue lead, is run into corals and washed from four to five times, giving on an average the following results: Original or first washings pay to the hand $20; second washing $80; third washing $50; 4th $30, when it empties into the flumes of other parties and is washed for a mile, till it is lost in the Yuba."

THE BRITISH PROVINCES.—The political disquiet of the western continent seems to be fast becoming universal. Late accounts say there is a political crisis in Canada. The Ministry have resigned, and Sir Allan McNab and Col. Tache were sent for by the Governor General, who wished to consult them regarding the formation of a new Cabinet. In New Brunswick, too, there are troublous times. The Governor dissolved the Legislature a short time since against the wishes of the Council, whereupon that body immediately resigned.

☞ The total amount of gold shipped from San Francisco during the past 6 months was twenty-four million two hundred and fourteen thousand nine hundred and eleven dollars—($24,214,911.)

The total coinage by the branch United States Mint, the past six months, was thirty-six millions seven hundred and three thousand eleven dollars and ten cents—(36,703,-011,10.)

NEWSPAPER STATISTICS.—The editor of the Washington Spectator designs to publish about August next, a list of all the periodicals, from monthlies to dailies in the United States, embracing California and the territories—with terms and the general character, so far as he can ascertain them. To aid in making up his list and in carrying out his further plan, he invites all publishers to send him three copies of their publications first issued after the 1st of July (or such as shall contain the fullest accounts of the day.) These he proposes to bind—one set to be filed in the Congress Library—one in the Library of the Smithsonian Institute—the other for his own sanctum. He also requests that this notice may be inserted once or more times in the editorial columns of his contemporaries. Those publishers who give it a place and send him a copy of their papers containing it will be furnished with a copy of the list when published.—[Fishkill Standard

A NEW METALIC ALLOY.—J. P. Anger, of London, England, has secured a patent for an alloy of metal, which he describes as follows:—I melt in a crucible one hundredth part of good copper, and while in a perfect state of fusion, add seventeen parts of zinc, six parts of magnesite, or substance of a like nature, though perhaps differing in name; three-sixth parts of ammonia, or salts of ammonia; one-eighth part of quick lime or other flux, and nine parts of crude tartar. The crucible is then covered, and the whole is allowed to come to a complete state of fusion. The metal resulting from this combination resembles gold in several of its properties.

SCHOOL APPROPRIATION FOR JULY.—The Superintendent of Public Instruction has forwarded to the several County Treasurers their respective proportions of the School Fund which has accrued from January 1st to July 1st—being the first semi-annual appropriation for the present year. The amount for Nevada County is $1,185 60—being $273 60 more than the last appropriation. The total amount from the State is $89,892, which is appropriated to 24,730 children between the ages of 4 and 18, being the largest apportionment yet made—but which is still in reality not more than one-sixth of what is needed for a wholesome sustenance of our public schools.

LAKE SUPERIOR MINES.—The reports from the Lake Superior Mines are highly favorable. The Detroit papers of May 18th, announce the arrival of considerable quantities of copper. Iron and Fish are also being exported from that region. The arrival of 220 tons of iron in blooms at Detroit is reported, also two invoices of fish.

The North American mine will be able, this season, to ship 300 tons, the Cliff 1700, and the Minnesota 1600. The others will likewise ship proportionately large amounts. A large mass in the Minnesota has been discovered, which, it is calculated, weighs 1,050 tons. The Collins Co. have a large lot of blooms at Marquette, and iron, ore and copper at the various ports, in considerable quantities, are awaiting shipment.

GOLD DISCOVERY IN VIRGINIA.—The Norfolk (Va.) Argus learns that a gold mine has been discovered on James river, in Charles City county, about eighty miles from Norfolk, on the farm of Z. F. Nance, Esq., a part of the Bolden tract. Some men being engaged in cutting timber on the land, one of them, who had worked in the gold mines of California, observed soil that reminded him of what he had seen on the other side of the continent, and on examination, found that the earth contained gold amounting to nearly twenty-five cents in value to every quart.

AN IDEA.—Philips in his "Banking House" says: "Wealth is the most royal of despots—the autocrat of all the world. Men whose sense of liberty forbids them to place their worst passions under wise control, will crawl in fetters to lick the basest hand well smeared with gold!"

☞ Experiments in producing gas from wood have been successfully made at the Philadelphia Gas Works. Ten additional retorts, suitable for wood, have been put up in one establishment, and it is believed that each retort can be made to produce from one and a half to two millions of cubic feet of gas, the quality of which has frequently been tested photometrically, and found to be such that the light obtained from a cord of 128 cubic feet of ordinary pine wood is equal to 800 pounds of spermaceti candles. Oak or maple, of good quality, will yield gas capable, in quality, of 900 pounds of spermaceti candles to the cord. These results are obtained from the wood used in large billets, without particular care in drying. But when the wood is well dried, and split into small pieces, the illuminating effect is very much increased—the product per cord of pine wood having equalled over 1300 pounds of spermaceti candles.

A NEW AND INTERESTING PHILOSOPHICAL EXPERIMENT.—Dr M. F. Bonzardo, of New Orleans, communicates to the Bulletin of that city, the following interesting electrical experiment, by which he explains the philosophy of water-spouts and whirlwinds:

From the conductor of an electrical machine suspended by a wire or chain, a small metallic ball, (one of wood covered with tinfoil) and under the ball place a rather wide metallic basin, containing some oil of turpentine, at the distance of about three quarters of an inch. If the handle of the machine be now turned slowly, the liquid in the basin will begin to move in different directions, and form whirlpools. As the electricity on the conductor accumulates, the troubled liquid will elevate itself in the centre, and it will become attached to the ball. Draw off the electricity from the conductor to let the liquid resume its position; a portion of the turpentine remains attached to the ball.—Turn the handle again very slowly, and observe now the few drops adhering to the ball assume a conical shape, with the apex downwards, while the liquid under it assumes also a conical shape, with the apex upward, until both meet. As the liquid does not accumulate on the ball, there must necessarily be as great a current downward as upward, giving the column of liquid a rapid circular motion, which continues until the electricity from the conductor is nearly all discharged silently, or until it is discharged by a spark, descending into the liquid. The same phenomenon takes place with oil or water. Using the latter liquid, the ball must be brought much nearer, or a much greater quantity of electricity is necessary to raise it. Those who have had occasion to observe the sublime phenomena of water-spouts will find in this experiment a faithful miniature representation of the gradual formation, progress, and breaking up of that grand phenomenon.

SINGULAR GEOLOGICAL FEATURE.—On the way from Morrison's Flat, says the editorial correspondence of the Pacific, we passed a marked geological formation, the most singular of the kind known in America. The Trachytic Basalt, a very hard blue gray stone, here juts out and runs up to a peak some sixty feet high, with a perfect columnar structure, the same as the Giant's Causeway in Ireland. Each column is a regular pillar without crack, seam or flaw, without a particle of loose stone to appearance intermingling, exactly fitting its neighbor columns, and with regular sides and angles, either as pentagons, hexagons, or heptagons, though a few we discovered were square. The diameter of different ones varies from four to fourteen inches, and their length, from six to twelve feet. But each one is true to its own form, without an instance of the least deviation, except that, as they all tend to one point, they are necessitated to run out after a regular diminution. The columnar structure is believed always to have its origin in connection with a powerful pressure; if so, the pressure in this case must have been peculiarly strong over one central point. Beyond this neck, the same range with it, the mountains of the same formation, slightly modified, and of perfect structure, rise to lofty heights.

POWER OF OIL TO STILL ANGRY WAVES.—To attest this alleged property in oil, a Commission of the Royal Institute of France, in 1844, experimented upon a portion of the North Sea; when several gallons of oil were poured upon the restless waves without the effect of diminishing their motion; and the Commission reported the alleged effect a popular error. On the other hand, Prof. Horsford, by emptying a vial of oil on the sea in a stiff breeze, stilled the surface; and Commodore Wilkes, in a violent storm off the Cape of Good Hope witnessed the same from oil leaking out of a whale ship.

Conclusion of Benton's Thirty Years' Review.

The following is the two hundredth and last chapter of Col. Benton's history of his Senatorial life. The second volume contains 788 pages. The work is now printing by the Messrs. Appleton, and will soon be before the public.

"I have finished the View which I proposed to take of the Thirty Years' working of the federal government during the time that I was part of it—a task undertaken for a useful purpose, and faithfully executed, whether the object of the undertaker has been attained or not. The preservation of what good and wise men gave us has been the object; and for that purpose it has been a duty of necessity to show the evil, as well as the good, that I have seen both of men and measures. The good I have exultingly exhibited! happy to show it, for the admiration and imitation of posterity: the evil I have stintingly exposed only for correction, and for the warning example.

I have seen the capacity of the people for self government tried at many points, and always found equal to the demand of the occasion. Two other trials now going on, remain to be decided to settle the question of the capacity. 1. The election of President; and whether that election is to be governed by the virtue and intelligence of the people, or become the spoil of intrigue and corruption? 2. The sentiment of political nationality! and whether it is to remain co-extensive with the Union, leading to harmony and fraternity; or divide into sectionalism ending in hate, alienation, separation and civil war?

An irresponsible body (chiefly self constituted and mainly nominated by professional office-seekers and office-holders) have usurped the election of President; (for the nomination is the election, so far as the party is concerned) and always making it with a view to their own profit in the monopoly of office and plunder.

A sectional question now divides the Union, arraying one-half against the other, becoming more exasperated daily—which has already destroyed the benefits of the Union, and which, unless checked, will destroy its forms.

Confederate republics are short lived—the shortest in the whole governments. Two diseases beset them—corrupt election of the chief magistrate, when elective; sectional contention, when interest or ambition are at issue. Our confederacy is now laboring under both diseases and the body of the people now, as always, honest in sentiment and patriotic in design, remain unconscious of the danger, and even become instruments in the hands of their destroyers.

If what is written in these chapters shall contribute to open their eyes to these dangers, and rouse them to the resumption of their electoral privileges and the suppression of sectional contention, then this View will not be written in vain. If not, the writer will still have the consolation, the knowledge of the fact that he has labored in his day and generation to preserve and perpetuate the blessings of that Union and self government which wise and good men gave us—St. Louis Democrat.

Water.

The extent to which water mingles with bodies apparently the most solid, is very wonderful. The glittering opal, which Beauty wears as an ornament, is only flint and water. Of every ten hundred tons of earth, which a landlord has in his estate, four hundred tons are water. The snow capped summits of Snowden and Ben Nevis have many million tons of water in a solidified form. In every plaster of Paris statue which an Italian carries through London streets for sale, there is one pound of water to every four pounds of chalk.

The air we breathe contains five grains of water to each cubic foot of its bulk. The potatoes and the turnips which are boiled for our dinner, have, in their raw state, the one, seventy-five per-cent., and the other ninety per cent. of water. If a man weighing ten stone were squeezed flat in a hydraulic press seven and a half stone of water would run out, and only two and a half of dry residue remain. A man is, chemically speaking, forty-five pounds of carbon and nitrogen diffused through five and a half pailsful of water.

In plants we find water thus mingled no less wonderfully. A sun-flower evaporates one and a quarter pints of water a day, and a cabbage about the same quantity. A wheat plant exhales in 172 days about one hundred thousand grains of water.

THE MONSTER SHIP.—A correspondent of an Atlantic paper says that the monster ship now building at London is 24,000 tons builders measure, and 18,000 tons register; carries of a crew 500; is one-eighth of a mile long, carries two long boats (screw steamers) in davits, of 125 feet length. Altogether, she is so immense that she requires to be seen to understand the size and beauty of her construction.

California Mining Journal.

GRASS VALLEY, AUG. 1, 1856.

Mining Summary.

Our attention has been so much called away by other duties growing out of the recent disastrous conflagration at Nevada, that we have not been able to devote much time to the present issue of the "Mining Journal." Our usual "mining summary," in particular, has been almost entirely neglected. We have usually devoted much care and considerable time to this matter, and trust that it may be long ere anything shall again occur to interfere with that duty.

QUARTZ MINING.

While we are, for the above reasons, unable to particularize to any great extent, we are nevertheless well assured that the past month has been one of progress in this important branch of California industry. The only new mill which has come under our notice the past month, is one in Santa Cruz county, which is being built by Imes & Co., the same company which is now operating with great success on the newly discovered ledges about six miles from Santa Cruz. They are putting up a new mill about four miles further down the Creek, where they will get a much better supply of water. They will put in twenty stamps. The rock in that vicinity still continues to pay remarkably well.

The Amador Sentinel says that there is a great want of water among the mills in that county, but that those which are able to run regularly are doing well. Several new mills are projected—no particulars given.

A rich quartz discovery has been made at Chinese Gulch, Calaveras county, by Messrs. Saunders, Wallace & Forbes. One ton of selected rock yielded 83 ounces.

The Sonora Herald says that Allen & Co., about fourteen miles above Sonora, are putting up an arastra on their claims, which are known to be extraordinary rich. Andrews, Cary & Co. have discovered a very rich ledge near Jamestown, from which they recently took out $500 in one day. Since the water has began to give out many in different parts of the county are beginning to turn their attention to Quartz.

The Marysville Herald of a late date says that a rich quartz lead has been discovered at Slate Creek by a Chilean, while on a hunting expedition. The Chilean was crawling under some bushes to get a shot at a quail, and discovered a lump of gold imbeded in quartz. He broke off a piece of the quartz weighing 25 pounds, from which he procured $200. Great excitement prevails in the vicinity, and a large number of claims have staked off and registered. It has also been reported that the same lead has been discovered about five miles from Slate Creek, which promises rich results. This ledge, we believe is located in Sierra county, on the divide between Slate and Poor Man's Creek.

Placer Mining.

The season for surface diggings is about over. The Gulches are nearly dry, and the water in the Ditches is fast giving out. The low condition of the rivers, however, which are as low now as they usually are a month later, will afford a fine season for those holding river claims. Extensive preparations have been made on all the principal streams for flumming, and the yield of gold from this source the present season will be unusually large. The same cause which is favorable to river mining will turn an increased attention to quartz mining.

There have been seven hundred and fifty deaths by lightning in the United States, during the last fourteen years; of whom but one was killed in a building furnished with a conductor. We do not think there has been one death from a similar cause during this time in California.

EARLY PRINTING.—Just one century ago, in August, 1756, the first printing press was introduced into New Hampshire, the first newspaper printed in October, and the first book in November of the same year.

LAW REFORM.—There is a large and respectable society in England called the "Law Amendment Society," whose object is a general Reform of Law practice, and indeed of the whole method of settling all civil disputes Among their plans is one for the establishment of "Courts of Reconciliation," which it is intended shall put an end to all suits which never ought to have been instituted, and defences that never ought to have been attempted. We believe that this principle of settling disputes has long been in operation throughout the mining districts of that country, and it is found to succeed most admirably, almost entirely superceding the necessity of Courts of Law in the mines. It is a rare thing for a mining dispute in England to be adjudicated by the legal tribunals. Lawyers are never employed in these miner's "Courts of Reconciliation." Intelligent practical men from among the miners themselves, are appointed to examine into the cases and to collect and collate the evidence. The introduction of such a system into California would save thousands of dollars of money to the hard-working miner, besides many valuable lives, now sacrificed by the "pistol code," which is a necessary adjunct to our present legal system as practiced in the mines. Will not some one who is acquainted with the mode of settling mining claims in England, give us an article on the subject? There are many in this neighborhood who are fully conversant with the practice, and abundantly able to place its principles before the California public. Who will do it?

Quartz Mining in Australia.

The miners of Australia are beginning to devote considerable attention to the veins of auriferous quartz which occasionally occur in the various mining districts of that region. This important and only legitimate branch of mining had been almost entirely neglected until within the past year. Now, however, a great number of veins, or "reefs," as they are generally distinguished there, have been discovered, and more or less developed, and in many cases with a very flattering degree of success. The old stories of [illegible] to represent the average yield of large masses, which at first produced such disastrous consequences in California, seem to be threatening a similar result in Australia. It is to be hoped, however, that the experience of California will not be altogether lost upon our Australian neighbors. The principal quartz operations seem as yet to be confined to the Bendigo district, where, from the accounts, we judge that several mills are in operation. The machines are described by a correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, as "fewer of any sort, and fewer still of any value." One vein known as "Simmer's Reef," in the Mt. Blackwood field, has been opened for the distance of six miles. Another "reef" in the same vicinity is said to have yielded as high as $160 to the ton for nine consecutive days, the entire time which the machinery upon it had been in operation. Several valuable veins have been opened on the Turon and Tuntaroose creeks. The direction of these veins is generally within a few degrees of north and south, and their average thickness from one to two feet, lying in slate, often very much disturbed by trap. The quartz is generally tinged with oxide of iron, and shows by assays small quantities of lead, silver and bismuth. At a locality known as Wind Mill Hill, the Messrs. Sullivan had a ton of rock crushed at "Young's Machine," which yielded according to report, upwards of $6000—of course it must have consisted of selected specimens. The accounts however state that the same Company subsequently hauled ten tons of their rock to the mill which yielded an average of $400 to the ton! Such yields are certainly most extraordinary; they are however isolated cases, which may be readily paralleled by veins in California.

RICH STRIKE.—We have seen some extraordinary rich specimens from Laramie's Lead. They are now working in a very rich pocket, which is turning out about a thousand dollars a day. We shall report further from this "strike" next week.

☞ According to the statistics recently published, the annual manufactures of Boston and its vicinity, reach the enormous amount of three hundred millions of dollars, or one million for every working day in the year!

STEAM BOILER EXPLOSIONS—INTERESTING EXPERIMENT—REFLECTIONS.—We deem it a matter of the utmost importance that every fact connected with water in its varied conditions as connected with the production of steam should be laid before the public. With this view we shall still continue, as heretofore, to notice all experiments upon this subject which may come within the range of our observation or reading. Apropos to the above, we have just taken up an old copy of the London Mining Journal, from which we quote the following:—"In a lecture recently delivered before the Mechanic's Institute, of Davenport, Eng., some two years since, by Prof. Hunt, of the English Museum of Economic Geology, he said that by the experiments of a late French philosopher, it was found that water, when deprived of its amospheric air, and assuming the condition technically called "allatropic," and submitted to heat did not boil at the common temperature of 212 deg. In the experiment alluded to, the thermometer, which was immersed in the water, gradually rose to *nearly* 260 deg., without any ebullition whatever. As soon however as it reached the full height of 260 deg. a violent explosion took place *in the water*. On repeating the experiment, when the thermometer again indicated a temperature of 230 deg. a small quantity of common water was introduced, in the proportion, of not more than a single drop to several gallons of allatropic water, when an explosion similar to that of gunpowder *instantly* ensued!"

May not this experiment be turned to important accounts by our scientific engineers? It is a well known fact that by far the greater number of accidents occur immediately on the starting of engines after they have been stoped for a short time. Now may it not be the case in such instances that the water in the boilers has assumed the allotropic state by parting with its atmospheric air? May not all, or nearly all the air in the boilers pass off with the steam through the safety valve during the stoppage of the engine, and along continued blowing off of steam? If the water in the boiler has so parted with its air, and the above detailed experiment is universal in its effects and application must not the first stroke of the pump inevitably produce an instantaneous *explosion?* Again, suppose you have on a heavy head of steam sufficient to cause a violent surplus escape through the safety valve, and at its commencement you shut off your feed water for a few minutes; may not the quantity of air be so reduced in your boiler as that an explosion will follow the instant you again start your pumps? These are questions which will naturally suggest themselves to every intelligent engineer, on reading the above experiment. They most certainly deserve a careful consideration.

The causes of steam boiler explosions have occupied the attention of chemists and engineers for many years, and many important facts have been elicited, with all of which every engineer should be conversant. The properties of water in its various conditions are even yet but imperfectly understood, and it should be considered the duty of every person to whom the charge of engines is entrusted, so keep himself thoroughly informed of every step made in the progress of this important investigation.

California is rapidly filling up with steam engines. There are probably not much if any short of 500 now in operation in the State, and their number is increasing in a greater ratio than any other State of the Union. The day is not far distant when they will be numbered by thousands. Hence it will be seen that a great and rapidly increasing number of lives are constantly in more or less jeopardy from steam boiler explosions, and it behoves all who are interested to see that none but careful and competent men are invested with the important trust of a steam engine.

ANTIQUE SPELLING.—Town Meeting, May 20, 1754: "It was Put to vote to See if the Town will Rais any money for the Suport of Reading Rightting and Gifering Schools in the Out Scorts of the Town and it passed in the Negative."—Andover Advertiser.

The California Metallurgical Works. Quartz Tailings.

EDITOR MINING JOURNAL:—Some two weeks since a portion of the editorial corps of San Francisco visited the new works of Messrs. Wass, Uzzany & Co., examined the buildings, saw, and had explained to them, the various processes through which the crude material passes in its journey from cinders and ashes to silver and gold." They partook of the "generous hospitalities," and then wrote out their reports of those great and important discoveries, from which we learn that an English company who had expended six hundred thousand dollars [no mill in the State ever need to have cost one-sixth part of that sum] upon their mill, could obtain from their ore only fifteen dollars per ton, while Messrs. Wass, Uzzany & Co. obtained by their smelting process *two thousand five hundred dollars per ton!* This will be pleasant news to the poor American shareholders. One of the reports inform us that "the object of this huge establishment is to extract the ore from the tailings of quartz mills, and other wastages resulting from the imperfect mining operations of the interior mills." Another report informs us that the works cost fifteen thousand dollars; and still another that they cost sixty thousand dollars. Another asserts that accurate assays have shown that while some of the quartz mills have collected from four to five hundred dollars per day from their crushed quartz, more than two thousand dollars value of its gold has been lost in the tailings. (!) Again, "it is pretty well known that nothing short of the fire process can extract all the fine particles of dust from the quartz." All this is sheer nonsense and permit me to suggest that while such stories are calculated to create only a smile among those familiar with the business, they are on the other hand calculated to injure us abroad.

If we understand the object of Messrs. Wass, Uzzay & Co., it is to obtain the sulphurets only, in a highly concentrated form, and not the tailings, with a view to smelt and extract the gold therefrom. *Some ores* are entirely free from sulphurets, some sulphurets free from gold. Few ores, well pulverized, will yield more than forty per cent of tailings; few tailings will yield ten per cent of sulphurets. Now admitting the tailings to yield ten per cent of sulphurets, to obtain ten tons we have to reduce two hundred and fifty tons of ore, and then the separation of the sulphurets from the tailings is both expensive and tedious. The ore which contains few or no sulphurets, contains *free* gold, to save which is not difficult, where ordinary care is used; but it is difficult or impossible by the ordinary mill process, to seperate the gold from the sulphurets. It is absurd at this day to tell men who, for five years have devoted their entire energy to this business, that they lose one-half to four-fifths of the gold. They deny and challenge proof.

We have no idea that Messrs. Wass, Uzzay & Co. designedly led those gentlemen astray, any more than we have that those gentleman represented results different from what they understood, yet we contend that their statements are based on error, and are calculated to mislead, and if we may venture a suggestion to the press, it is to exercise more care before they venture assertions about a business with which they are not supposed to be familiar, especially before they assert that the ore from any lead will yield on an average of $2500 a ton, and that a mill will lose out of it $2485.

Q.

PHENOMENA OF GASES.—Hydrogen gas burns with a blue flame; strantum with a red flame; copper oxide with a green flame; and many substances with a yellow flame—such as the common street gas. The cause of this is owing to the forms of the particles or atoms undergoing combustion; they must be of such forms as to reflect their peculiar colors, like a prism. When boracic acid is present in minerals, it is well known that they burn with a beautiful green flame; and Prof. Forbes, of Edinburg, an eminent chemist, has recently discovered that chlorine produces the same result.

CANADIAN MINING REGULATIONS.—Unlike most other countries on the globe Canada strives to prohibit instead of promote the extraction of her mineral wealth. The "Order in Council" of Sept. 1853, although an improvement on the former code, requires a prospecter to pay into the Crown, Land Department 25 Canadian pounds, or $100 for a privilege to explore six months, and requires him to locate a spot 40 chains in front by 100 in depth, and until he completes the purchase he shall not fell or remove any timber, nor carry off any minerals except as specimens. The Toronto Globe affirms that where the United States possess one mile of mining country along Lake Superior, Canada possesses ten, the north shores of Lake Huron and Superior included, and complains with justice at the restrictions imposed on the enterprise of her citizens by these regulations.

The result of these restrictions is becoming apparent. While populous and thriving towns and neighborhoods are growing up all along the American shores of those upper lakes, their opposite shores are yet a howling wilderness, with only here and there a settlement to break the dreary monotony of Nature's solititude.

There is no greater source of commercial importance and prosperity in a nation than that derived from her mines. England would at this day have been far behind her present position had it not been for her mines of iron and coal. It is manifestly to the true interest of any nation to extend the greatest facilities for developing her mineral resources. In this particular our own country stands pre-eminent. Let "the mines lie as free as air," is our motto. Let them be free to all. They will constitute a "bank" which can never fail, and one upon which no draft properly made will ever be dishonored. If on the contrary, they be locked up by the narrow mindedness of Government or for any other cause, then will one of the chief doors of our progression be closed, in the loss of the extensive wealth and industrious population which might have been called into existence.

Lake Superior Mines.

The Boston Journal says:

The two leading mines on Lake Superior, worked by the Pittsburg and Minnesota Companies, are giving astonishing results for the last year, and promise even better returns for the present. A letter recently received estimates the product of the Pittsburg for this year at 2,000 tons. The Minnesota Company will probably have $44,000 worth of copper ready for shipment at the opening of navigation. Both of these stocks have recently advanced materially. The Pittsburg sold today at 205, and for Minnesota 55 was bid for several lots.

It is estimated that during the year $2,500,000 worth of ore will be obtained from the Lake Superior mines. As near as can be gethered, the product of the different mines will be about as follows:

	Tons.		Tons.
Minnesota	2,000	Toltec	125
Cliff	1,800	Pewabic	50
North American	300	Huron	75
Northwester	200	Rockland	250
Copper Falls	180	National	150
Central	150		
Total			5,280

Besides these, the shafts "Phœnix," "Norwich," "Ridge," "Portage," "Forrest," and others, will yield handsomely. The companies are adding to their facilities for working, and the number of miners is constantly increasing.

The mining interests of this region are of a most flattering character, and will soon form a very important feature of our national mining interest. It has been truly said that a peculiar feature in mining history, that the grosser the metal the more valuable generally the results. The tin mines of Cornwall laid the foundation of some of the largest fortunes in England. Iron and coal mines throughout the world have been of immense profit to proprietors, and furnished employment and labor to a large population, whilst the glittering temptations of the mines of silver and gold, holding out as they do a prospect of sudden riches—that grand day dream of multitudes—too often produce a demoralizing effect on the people in their vicinity.

Adam Smith, whose researches on all matters connected with Political Economy were so profound, clearly defines the reasons why, in those countries abounding in the precious metals, the people are so often to be found of idle and vicious habits. Had he lived in the days of California mining, his views might have been somewhat changed in regard to the gold miners, although his ideas on the coarser range of mining would not have undergone much alteration.

THE ALLISON'S RANCH MILL.—We were misinformed in our last issue with regard to the operations upon this mine. We stated that the proprietors did not intend to put up a mill at present, but had put up their engine for pumping only. We have since learned that they are now engaged in putting up a mill, the castings for which will soon be upon the ground, and the mill erected with all convenient dispatch. The pump is now, in operation and works beautifully. They are now about running a drift from their shaft to intersect the vein. We shall expect to bear a good report from them when they strike the lead.

A NEW (?) PROCESS for extracting gold has been tried by the Colonial Gold Company, at their works in London. They melt the quartz containing the gold in furnaces; the precious metal falls to the bottom, and is separated in a mass, and the moulten rock when cast in moulds, is said to be useful for building purposes. We should be pleased to receive from any of our readers who may have it, a detailed account of the above process, with the result. We presume it differs but little from the expensive experiment made in Nevada in 1851.

LIGHTING MINES WITH GAS.—The mines of Mr. Ackroyd, in Yorkshire, Eng., are now lighted by coal gas upon an ingenious plan recently suggested by Mr. Piesse. The experiment is completely successful, and it is thought that the plan will be very generally adopted throughout the mining districts of Yorkshire.

LARGE YIELD.—Three and three quarters acres of wheat was cut from Oakley's Ranch, near Bear River Crossing, a few days since, which yielded 61 bushels to the acre. The wheat was lodged by the storm in May, or it would have yielded much more.

Three acres of barley from the same Ranch, a volunteer crop, yielded 45 bushels. The barley that was seeded this year on the same ranch yielded much higher. The average of good wheat ground in New York is about 20 bushels. 35 and 40 bushels are considered an extraordinary yield. The excess of yield in California produce more than equals the extra price of labor.

MAMMOTH PIE PLANT.—We acknowledge the reception of three mammoth stalks of Rhubarb, of the "Victoria" variety, raised upon the ranch of Mr. T. Worthington, situated about one mile from this village, on the lower road to Nevada. The largest stalk measures six inches in circumference, weighs two and a half pounds, and measures two feet eleven inches across the diameter of the leaf! The three stalks together weigh six and one quarter lbs. Can any one produce a larger specimen?

☞ Six years ago there was not a flouring or quartz mill in the State, and but two or three saw mills. Now there are some 75 flouring mills with about 130 run of stones 300 saw mills, and about 80 quartz mills in active and successful operation. What State can show a more rapid progress toward permanence and wealth.

LITERARY FAVORS.—We are again indebted to that Prince of Periodical men, J. W. Sullivan, of San Francisco, for a large package of periodicals from the Atlantic States and Europe, by the Golden Age. Among them we notice full files of the Pictorials and Harper's Magazine. Sullivan will please accept our best bow.

THE CAMELS HAVE COME.—The U. S. storeship Supply, with 25 camels on board have arrived at Salina, Texas, and these interesting animals were at the last accounts rapidly recruiting themselves from the effects of their long sea voyage. They will soon start out for the plains, and we shall learn the result of this important experiment.

Mining Casualties.

June 26. The Calaveras Chronicle says: Again we have to record the death of another victim to carelessness in blasting. A miner named Collins, employed in the Texas Quartz claim, was killed under the following circumstances:—It is the custom to prepare two charges at the same moment, but on this occasion from a defect in the fuse, but one of the charges was fired. A few minutes afterwards, Collins entered the tunnel and had approached near the charge when it exploded, a piece of rock about a ton in weight falling upon and killing him instantly. Collins was an Englishman.

July 2. A man named Randall S. Burton, from China, Me., was instantly killed in his cabin at Empire Flat, on Canon Creek, by the limb of a tree falling upon and crushing in the cabin. Two others were seriously injured at the same time. All three were sitting at the table eating dinner when the limb fell.

Since the above was in type, we learn by a paragraph in the Sierra Citizen, that the unfortunate men were chopping down the tree and had just left it nearly ready to fall, to go to dinner, and before they got a dozen rods the tree fell across the cabin. The man killed was crushed to atoms, and the log had to be sawed off twice before is remains could be found.

July 10. Three men, one named Armstrong, another Simpson, the name of the third we have not learned, were charging a blast on Shady Creek, about eight miles from Nevada, near Cherokee, when the charge suddenly exploded, bursting the rock into fragments, and very seriously wounding Armstrong, who has lost one eye. The other two were not seriously injured. The escape of either from death was most providential. They were using an iron tamper.

July 11. A man by the name of McDonald was instantly killed in Nevada. He was in the act of charging a blast on Deer Creek, a few rods above the Main street bridge, when the charge suddenly exploded, driving the tamping directly through his head. He was also using an iron tamper.

July 11. The Marysville Express of July 12th, says: An accident occurred yesterday morning at Grizzly Hill, Sierra county, in which two men, who were at work in a claim belonging to Owens & Co., were so badly injured by the caving in of a bank that one of them is probably dead by this time, and the other, if living, crippled for life.

July 15th. A man named Clark McCoy, while washing down a bank by hydraulic power, in a rich claim, of which he was part owner, at Sebastopol, on the Yuba, was so badly crushed by the bank falling upon him, that he survived but a few hours. He was from Illinois, and was buried with the honors of Masonry.

COAL AND IRON IN PORTUGAL.—The London Mining Journal says that an important coal and iron discovery has recently been made in Portugal, about seventy miles from Lisbon. The coal field is believed to be quite extensive. It has already been proved to be several miles square. Iron also occurs in great abundance in the same neighborhood. This, we believe, is the first discovery of coal in Portugal. Considerable commercial importance is attached to the discovery.

TAXING IMMIGRATION.—William T. Wallace, Attorney General, has decided, in a written opinion, that the law entitled "An Act to discourage the immigration to this State of persons who cannot become citizens thereof," is, unconstitutional, and therefore void. He claims that the Constitution of the United States denies to the States the *regulation of foreign commerce*, and that to impose a tax upon passengers of a ship from a foreign port is such a regulation of commerce.

☞ A quarry of beautiful, variegated marble has been discovered within two miles of San Antonio. The strata of stone, says the Texan, is found from four to ten feet below the surface of the earth, and it is susceptible of a beautiful polish.

The manufacture of picks by steam has been commenced in Sacramento; seven or eight men are employed at present.

Curious Effects of the Force of Gunpowder.

A train of wagons were some time since passing through the town of Wilmington, (Del.?) when, by the carelessness of the driver, the whole train was fired by a cigar. The concussion was tremendous, and some of the phenomena were very curious and interesting. Prof. Olmstead has made the occurrence a matter of careful investigation, and has elicited some facts of remarkable interest, which he has reduced to writing, and read before a Scientific Association at Providence, R. I. The following are some of the facts which he collected, and which will be found to possess much of curious interest.—They tend most unmistakably to show that there are some facts connected with gun powder explosions, beyond the mere liberation of gases, with which we are as yet little acquainted. The striking similarity between some of the effects produced by this explosion and the usual results following electrical explosions must at once present itself to every reader, and to a philosophical mind cannot fail to afford much food for reflection.

"A splinter from a Venetian blind was blown through an inch board, making as smooth a hole as if pointed with steel.

Metals were often displaced; the skoes were torn of the officers' feet, castors from furniture, and hinges from doors, and a wagon tire was torn off and straightened, and one piece left on a hill a quarter of a mile off. Windows were destroyed for the distance of more than a mile; those near the spot were burst in, those further off had the nearer windows burst in, the others out; those further off were silk burst out.

A piano open near the spot was a little injured; one closed, further off, was burst open and nearly ruined. The effect on the animal system was to produce a sense of suffocation at first, and afterwards soreness of the throat and even hemoptysis. Many were carried some feet and dropped erect. A man on on horseback was lifted out of the saddle and dropped into it again.

But the most wondrous effect was exhibited by three depressions where the wagons had stood. The one under the middle wagons was ten feet by five, and three feet deep. It appeared that the earth (macadamized) had not been removed but condensed.

Prof. Olmstead knew of no instance of greater power, even in the great explosion of Vesuvius, where two millions of pounds of powder exploded that equalled *this*. Iron water pipes were broken four or five feet under ground.

STEAM BOILERS.—An Englishman has patented a mode of constructing steam boilers in such a way that they may gradually revolve on an axis, so that a fresh surface of the boiler may be constantly exposed to the action of the fire, instead of allowing the latter always to act on the same surface. One of the ways of accomplishing this—and supposing an ordinary cylindrical boiler to be chosen for the purpose, the patentee bolts, rivets or otherwise fastens at each of its ends an axis of a suitable length, supported on bearings in the usual way. One of these axis may be of solid iron, but it is preferred to be hollow and provided with a stuffing box, through which a water pipe passes, in order to feed the boiler with water, and it is also on this axis the patentee refers placing a water-gauge, to indicate the level of the water in the boiler. To this is fastened a cog wheel into the cogs of which an endless screw or spur-wheel is working, or else a pulley with a chain, by which a slow revolving motion is given to the boiler. The other axis, furnished at the other end of the boiler, should be hollow, and through this hollow axis and through a stuffing box with which it is provided, a steam pipe passes, which is bent upwards and always remains so inside the boiler; and it is by means of this steam-pipe, which is provided with a steam-cock at a suitable distance, that steam generated in the boiler finds an exit when wanted.

STEAM ENGINES.—An improved steam engine has recently been invented by a Mr. Stevens, which upon the *regeneration* principle, or that of rendering active the latent heat of steam by a process of applying heat to the steam of the cylinder as it is exhausted at the end of the stroke. This steam having performed its work upon the piston is discharged through conducting pipes into a second and third cylinder, and these two latter are enveloped by exterior cylinders, having furnaces at the ends and on which the heat currents of these furnaces impinge, giving to the lower end a temperature in the interior of almost 500 degrees.

NEW COAL MINE.—It is said that a vein of coal resembling anthracite has been struck on the south fork of the American, near Mormon Island, which bids fair to prove extensive.

Letter from "Old Block."

MONTEREY, June 19, 1856.

MR. EWER:—If your general readers know as little of Monterey, except of its history, as I did before I came, it may not be wholly uninteresting to read a paragraph respecting the ancient Capital of California, so I sit down before a pleasant fire in a very large parlor, to give the doings of an invalid.

It was four o'clock, P. M., on Saturday, when I left the bustle and excitement of San Francisco, on the steamer Senator, and within half an hour was rolling on the waves of the Pacific outside of the Golden Gate.—Night closed in, and, weak as I was, I turned in at an early hour, and notwithstanding the huge cradle I was in, and the noise of the waves dashing against the sides of our staunch craft, I was soon asleep. I was awakened from a sound nap about five o'clock the following (Sunday) morning by the sound of the gun booming over the waters, followed by the cry of "Passengers for Monterey, ashore!!" A short time only succeeded, when I sprang from the small boat which conveyed me, a solitary passenger, to land upon a ledge of rocks, and carpet-bag in hand. I found myself perambulating the streets of Monterey in search of the Washington Hotel. You have read the story of Noureddin, in the Arabian Nights, who was carried by the Genii to another city in his sleep, and the change seemed almost as wonderful to me from the City of Palaces which I had so recently left.

I was in an old Spanish town. The streets were broad and irregular, running into each other often at sharp angles, while the buildings on either side are built, with few exceptions of *adobe*, two and even three stories high in a few instances, in that peculiar style which seems to pervade all old Spanish towns. Long houses, with piazzas—or more properly balconies, extending along the whole front of the *second* story, and sometimes along the whole basement. The windows of many of the best dwellings were secured by iron bars, which gave the appearance of prisons or fortifications, and what carried the idea still further, was the high adobe enclosures which completely shut out all view of the premises within. These adobe were very generally protected from the weather by tiles, as without some protection from the rain the walls would soon decay. Now and then a few buildings had no windows on the street, and only heavy doors or oak which might stand some hard knocks before they would yield to outward force. This peculiar style of building may have been induced in the first instance for protection against the Indians, and the excitable temperament of the old Californians and the frequency of their revolutions, made it somewhat necessary that each house should be in some sort a fortification. These houses however are well adapted to the climate, for, from the immense thickness of their walls, they are cool in summer and warm in winter, and withal are very comfortable and not unpleasant quarters.

Without the aid of a guide, I found my way to the Washington, the only Hotel in town, and though my quarters are by no means luxurious they are comfortable.

Monterey is beautifully situated on the Bay. The ground gradually rises, and this slope extends perhaps a mile from the beach, where it abruptly terminates in a bold, high wood covered ridge, which separates it from the sea on the west. The view of the country in the distance is of mountains and broken land, but the bay, with a fine sand beach miles in length on the west side, is beautiful.

The population of the town I am told will not exceed eight hundred, although from the ground that is covered with buildings, I should have placed it double that number, and of these it is estimated that only one quarter are Americans.

I am still too weak to go into a long description, and my trembling nerves admonish me to cut short. There is but little trade now. The streets are almost deserted, and there is nothing of the life of our mining towns, and probably it has changed its character in this respect since it was the seat of Government, when all California was tributary to it. Although I have up to this time been too ill to deliver my letters of introduction, I have nevertheless made some very pleasant acquaintances, and it will be another bright spot added to my California reminiscences.

To day I have been shown by Dr. Taylor, specimens of the Condor, taken near here, together with a beautiful collection of petrified Oyster and various Sea shells, which were found about eighty miles distant, at an altitude of 2000 feet above the sea.

The situation of Monterey is really beautiful, and to a man of fortune would afford a pleasant residence. Since I have been here the weather has been cool and bracing.

In walking about town there are many evidences of departure from former glory in the decay and ruins of ancient buildings. Nothing is left of the old Mission but the antiquated Stone Church, on which is the date of erection—1794. The buildings that once surrounded it are now only a mass of overthrown walls, which are fast resolving themselves into their natural element of earth, and by their hillocks marking out the extent of former greatness. Ruins of adobes are found in various parts of the town, which speaks but too plainly of Monterey. "Thy glory hath departed." It was here that Cortez landed with his hardy veteran crew, and I was shown the little ravine where they ran their boats ashore, and the tree still stands on which they chronicled their arrival, (at least is so said) and some of the marks are yet visible which they made.

A small company are engaged in whaling here. Last year I was told they put up 500 bls. oil. I have for the first time tasted native California wine. It resembles somewhat Saturne, and retails here for five bits a bottle. The grape is not cultivated here, and indeed I have seen no orchards, and only a few solitary peach trees in gardens.

Truly yours,

A. DELANO.

Annexation by England.

The English mail of the 10th of January did not arrive till the 13th inst. Oude has been annexed, and now forms an integral portion of the British Empire; and the largest province of Bengal is assessed to groan under one of the most despicable of native despotisms. The territory covers an area of 24,000 square miles, containing a population of betwixt 3,000,000 and 5,000,000, with a revenue of nearly a million, which might be doubled under the most ordinary system of management. It has hitherto maintained an army of some 80,000 men, ill-armed, unaccoutred, undisciplined and unpaid, the scourge and terror of those whom they should have protected. In 1801, in our undertaking the defence of Oude from its enemies, and the protection of its Sovereign from the discontent of its subjects for a subsidy of a million and a quarter, the Sovereign covenanted on his part for the good government of the State. While we have faithfully fulfilled our share of the agreement, the King of Oude has violated his in every particular. The people have been oppressed, the revenues squandered, and the infamous debaucheries of the Court had become a disgrace and a scandal to all India. The Sovereign from time to time was warned of the result which must follow the course which he chose to pursue, and eight years ago Lord Hardinge specially admonished him of the fate impending over him, unless he determined to avert it by reform. Entreaties, remonstrances, and warnings having all been resorted to alike in vain, it was resolved that Oude, as an independent province should be blotted from the map of India. The home authorities are said long to have hesitated. Cannon-row and Leadenhall-street shrunk from the clamor of those philanthropists, who, for the sake of preserving a few dozens of royal or noble scoundrels in a position which they disgraced, are willing to sacrifice the happiness and welfare of their subjects. A voluminous dissertation is understood to have been prepared, and forwarded on the subject by the Marquis of Dalhousie in October last to England, and an unhappy half-measure, committing the charge of the state to the Resident ruling in the King's name, was reported to be in contemplation. Finding themselves at length backed by the unanimous voice of the press, the home authorities appear to have plucked up heart of grace, and to have assented to the recommendation of the Governor General for a final and complete annexation. The Resident, Gen. Outram, having been summoned to Calcutta to meet the Governor General on his return from the Neilgherries in the end of December, final measures for the annexation were arranged between them, and on the 25th of January the Resident proceeded to Lucknow to carry out the policy with the execution of which he was entrusted. He reached Cawapore on the 28th, where a force of 12,000 men had been established, a bridge of boats having been constructed to convey them cross the river. On the following day orders were issued for two brigades to proceed to Lucknow. The first, commanded by Col. Wheeler, consisted of her Majesty's 52nd, two batteries with guns, the 1st Light Cavalry, and 18th and 73rd Native Infantry. The 2nd of the 5th Irregular Cavalry, a battery of artillery, and the 22nd and 41st Native Infantry. These having proceeded to the capital, were in readiness to overawe the malcontents should any such present themselves, or put down disturbance should it threaten to appear.—But the King, of his own accord, had, on their approach, dismantled his guns, disarmed the garrison, and shut up the palace. Gen. Outram's first interview with the Sovereign was on the 4th of February, when, accompanied by Captain Hayes and Captain Weston, members of the mission, his Majesty was urged to sign a deed of abdication. This he positively refused, saying that he would appeal to England; and having persisted in declining voluntarily to retire, he was, on the 7th of February, deposed by formal proclamation, and the State transferred to the Crown of England without a voice or finger being raised in defence of the departing dynasty. The King retires on a pension of £150,000 a year, a sum surely sufficient to maintain fiddlers for the most musical wantons, for the most amorous of monarchs. A contingent of some 15,000 men is to be raised, 12,000 infantry, 1000 cavalry, and four flog

An Immense Floating Battery.

Several paragraphs have recently appeared in various journals respecting an immense Floating Battery, which for several years has been in progress of construction at New York. Large appropriations have been made by Congress from time to time in aid of its construction, and much curiosity has existed as to its description and power for injury to an enemy. It will no doubt form a most dangerous obstacle to a hostile fleet approaching the harbor where it is stationed. A late number of the New York Tribune, in an editorial notice of the decease of Robert L. Stevens, thus alludes to it:

"Many years ago Mr. Stevens expended much time in perfecting the art of gunnery, and he experimented for nearly a year at Fox Hill, near Hoboken, for the purpose of testing the power of a cannon-shot upon plates of iron. He erected a large solid brick square, to which were affixed the iron plates at which his shot were directed. He experimented first upon various thicknesses of iron placed compactly together. He then arranged them with a space between the plates, and ascertained the force of the heaviest shot could be broken in that manner, so that, without perforating more than a number of the plates, the force of the ball or bomb would be entirely expended. Having succeeded to his satisfaction in these tests, he called the attention of the General Government to a project which he had conceived for the construction of a mammoth battery for the defence of the harbor of New York. He was authorized to proceed with the construction, and has been engaged upon it for several years past. The amount expended upon it is stated to be $2,000,000 and an application for $250,000 more is now pending. The outer shell of this battery consists of nine plates of iron, with spaces between them, making a wall twenty-seven inches thick. This battery is to be so constructed that four ends may be driven into an ordinary ship, and cut it in two. It will be of 700 feet in length and 70 in width, with a rudder at each end. The work upon this battery is conducted with secresy in an enclosed yard adjacent thance to which is not permitted. Mr. Stevens has been in the employment of the Government, devoting much of his personal attention to the construction of this battery. When completed it is to be moored in the bay, probably midway between the city and the Narrows. It is designed to carry thirty guns of heavy calibre on each side, and no doubt four Paixhan guns. There will be furnaces in her for heating shot. She will be propelled by engines, and have no masts. She will be of 6000 tons burthen."

A Petrified City.—Mr. Ritchie, an enterprising traveler, who some years since attempted an exploration of the interior of Africa, is our authority for the following statement of a "petrified city," situated somewhere within eight miles of Tripoli. He writes: "As one of my friends wishes me to give in writing an account of what I knew touching the petrified city, situated seventeen miles from Tripoli, or a caravan to the southeast, and two days journey south from Ongnela. I told him what I had heard from different persons, and particularly from one man of credit who had been upon the spot, that it was a supreme city of stone, which, having great and small streets therein, furnished with shops, with a large castle, magnificently built. That he had seen there several sorts of trees, the most part olives and palms, all of stone, and of a blue, or rather lead color. That he also saw figures of men, in postures of receiving their different employments—some holding in their hands staffs, others bread; every one doing something—even women suckling their children; all of stone. That he went into the castle by three different gates—that there were guards at the gates, with pikes and javelins in their hands. In short, that he saw a wonderful thing, many sorts of animals, as camels, horses as es and sheep, and various birds, all of stone, and of the color above mentioned." Perry, in his "Views of the Levant," also mentions this city. The substance of the story of the petrified city in the "Arabian Nights," may have had its origin in this remarkable belief or tradition of "the city turned into stone," which exists among the Arabs to this day.

A Dangerous Bonnet.—An eminent English physician says:

"I have to lament the increase amongst the female part of my practice, of the dolorous in the forehead, loss of sight, and great suffering in the ear, induced, I firmly believe, from the present absurd fashion of dressing the neck instead of the head. During the past month I have been in attendance upon two lovely girls with the dolorous in the forehead, and several others with similar complaints. It is high time the frivolous bonnet of the present day should be done away with.

☞ Our valley never presented a more flourishing appearance in its leading industrial pursuit than at this present writing. All is activity in quartz mining. At no period in our history have the mills been more busy, than now, and never was the prospect more flattering for a continuance of such activity. During the past week we have seen at the Gold Hill mill a great number of large balls, very hot and heavy, and on asking where they came from, we were assured that they were from the Sebastopol, Malakoff and Redan mines! That these localities may ever continue to send forth *such* balls as numerously and as rapidly as the strong holds after which they are named, is our most sincere wish.

Many large lots of ore belonging to divers owners and from different localities, have been reduced at the above named mill, which yielded a full average of $75 to the ton.

Query.

We see by the papers from San Francisco that under the Consolidation Act passed by the last Legislature, the powers and duties which were formerly devolved on the old Board of Supervisors are now vested in four Justices of the Peace.

Query.—If the Legislature have not the power to confer County business on the Court of Sessions composed of the County Judge and two Justices of the Peace, as has been decided by the Supreme Court, how can it confer the same power on four Justices of the Peace?

Will some constitutional lawyer of San Francisco please inform us? If not, possibly the Supreme Court will some day give us a lecture on the subject.

Copper Discoveries.—The Santa Barbara Gazette of July 5, says: "We have upon our table several specimens of copper ore which were obtained in the northern part of this county. They are said to contain sixty per cent. of this metal, and the veins from which they were taken are represented as being fifteen feet in width, and to have been traced on the surface some three hundred yards."

Providential Preservation of a Collier's Life, for seven days without Meat or Drink, in the Dowlais Collieries.—Wm. Davies, a collier in the above works, having lost his light on Friday, the 1st inst., groped his way in the wilderness of levels, headings, and stalls, in the above gigantic collieries, until he at last went into an old part of the work, where, for many a long month, the sound of the mandrel had ceased to be heard. On February 7th, two of the colliers were induced to go through a hole into the old workings, where they found the person of the poor sufferer. He at once said, "Oh thank God, you have brought me a light. I lost my light last night." Although he had been, during the hole of the night, in the dark days) there, he had nothing to eat or drink. He had neither candles nor matches, so that he could not extricate himself from the dreadful death which seemed approaching. Occasionally the rats would come around him, but a move of his body would disperse them. He wept bitter tears frequently, and would utter a fervent prayer to God, to send no one to his deliverance. He slept but little. He looks a little wan, but speaks quite consciously.—Star of Gwent.

Hutchings' California Magazine.—We have received a copy of the first number of a new monthly entitled as above, and published at San Francisco. It promises from its present appearance to be peculiarly adapted to the tastes and wants of the general reader, and will no doubt secure a good circulation. It is eminently California in character, and several of its leading articles are beautifully illustrated, much after the manner and style of Harper's Magazine. We commend the enterprise of Mr. Hutchings to the encouragement of the public.

Taxing Mining Claims.—The following letter which was received a few days since by the Assessor of this county, will be found of some importance to miners:

Att. Gen'l's Office, June, 18, 1856.

Sir:—I am of the opinion that capital invested in mining claims, is a proper subject of Taxation under the Revenue Law of this State. Very Respectfully yours,

WM. T. WALLACE,
Attorney General.

Mr. John McCoy,
Assessor, Nevada Co.

Quartz Mining Directory.

[CORRECTED MONTHLY.]

As it is very desirable that this list should be full and correct, we shall feel particularly obliged to any person that will correct any error that may be notice l in the subjoined list, or make any additions to the same.

It is desirable to add new mills to the list as soon as active preparations are commenced for their erection.

☞ No mills are to be inten led to be placed in this list by such as are in active operation.

It is also desirable to give the names and localities where "arastras" are at work—giving the name of the Company—Director, number of arastras, when put in operation—kind of power used—whether the work is to be permanent, or merely as a mode of prospecting with the ulterior view of the erection of other machinery.

Shasta County.

Mount Washington, located at French Gulch, started in 1855, with water power; Director Mr. Searls.

Eureka, located at seventy Six, Plumas, started in 1851, with water power; Director Mr. Coulter.

Plumas County.

Mammoth, Seventy Six, started in 1851, with water power; Director Mr. McGee.

Sierra County.

Aerial, Downieville Buttes, started in 1852, water; Director ——

Copper Hill, located at Minnesota, started in 1855, steam; Director Mr Gaston.

German Bar located at Middle Yuba, started in 1853, water; Director ——

Butte County.

Spring Valley Q. M. Co., near Oroville, Steam, 8 stamps, started 1854; Director Mr. Alexander.

Smith & Park are running six arastras at Columbiaville.

Sandtil & Simmons are running four arastras about twelve miles north of Oroville. Near the same locality Messrs. White Nutter, & Co., are running two, and Messrs. Derrick & Co. two. Many other veins are being opened in this vicinity, with encouraging prospects.

Yuba County.

Rule & Co., Brown's Valley, Steam, 9 stamps, John Rule, Director.

Nevada County.

Lorsmer's, located at Grass Valley, started in 1852, water, 9 stamps; Director Mr. Lorsmer. Otis arastra used for reducing blanket washings.

Providence, near Valley, started in 1852, steam, 10 stamps; Director Mr. Lee.

Boston, Grass Valley; started in 185 , steam, 8 stamps; Director Mr Cheevan.

Lafayette and Neville, Grass Valley, started in 185 , steam; Director Mr Conway—eight teen stamps.

Empire, Grass Valley, started in 1852; steam, 10 stamps; Director Mr. Harding.

Osborn Hill, Grass Valley, started in 1852, steam; Director Mr. Crossett—10 stamps.

Orleans, Hunston Hill, started in 1854, steam, 12 revolving stamps, with 5 arastras; Director Mr. Stackhouse.

Gold Hill, Grass Valley, started in 1851, steam; Director Mr. Atwood—11 stamps.

Rocky Bar, Grass Valley, started in 1855, steam; Director Mr. Brenson, (mill now being built.)

Allison's Ranch, Grass Valley, Steam Pump used for drainage.—Mill now in progress of erection

Mountain George, Mt. George, started in 1853, steam; Director Mr Rogers. (Mill not running at present.)

New Mill now building in Grass Valley by Messrs Leyland & Rich, Steam.

New Mill now building in Grass Valley by Messrs Woolworth & Co. Steam.

Washington, Nevada, started in 1851, steam; Director Mr. Whigham—18 stamps.

Wyoming, Deer Creek, started in 1853, stamps; Director Mr. Lambert.

Gold Tunnel, Nevada, started in 1851, steam; Director Mr Still.

Empire, Deer Creek, started in 1851, water; Director Mr Adams.

Canada Hill, Nevada, started in 1853; Casamahue & Co. proprietors, steam; 18 stamps.

National, South Yuba, started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Raymond.

California Quartz Gold Mining Co., (now building) water and steam, Alpha P. to.

Placer County.

Pennsylvania, Humbug Canon, started in 1855, steam, 15 stamps; Director Dr. McMurtrie.

Sailsbee, Auburn ville, started in 1855, steam, 12 revolving stamps; Director Mr. Hancock.

New Mill in process of erection about a mile north of Ophir City; names of Proprietors not known.

☞ Some 30 arastras are running in the vicinity of Doty's Flat in this County.

El Dorado County.

Sierra Nevada, Grizzly Flat, started in 1851, water; Director Mr. Knox.

Eagle, Grizzly Flat, started in 1852, water; Director, Mr. McKain.

Mammoth Mound, Grizzly Flat, started in 1851 water; Director Mr. Sterly.

Maryland, Placerville, started in 1854, water; Director ——

Pacific, Placerville, started in 1854, water; Director Mr. Smith.

American, Placerville, started in 1855, water Director ——

Union, Auburn City, started in 1852, steam, ; Director Mr. Mac, Egeil, 14 stamps, El Dorado P. O.

Tennessee, Consumnes River, started in 1855, steam Director Mr. Hay; 15 stamps.

Mammoth, Consumnes River, El Dorado P. O., started in 1856, water—10 stamps, Director Mr. Mead.

Columbia, Gold Springs, started in 1855; water; Director ——

Sight Hollow, Placerville, started in 1855, steam; Director Mr. Baker.

Georgetown, Logtown, started in 1854, two arastras, Director ——

Mills & Co., Consumnes River, El Dorado P. O. started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Mills.

Hemitage, Consumnes Ridge, started in 1855, 20 stamps, steam; Director Mr. Ira S. Parke.

Cary & Co., Placerville—Letter of June 21, says that three new mills will be in operation the coming fall in this county. We should be pleased to hear from them and add their names to the "Mining Directory."

Amador County.

Rancheree, Rancheree, started in 1853, water; Director Mr. Williams.

Amador, started in 1852, steam; Director ——

Spring Hill, Amador, started in 1852, steam; Director Mr. Burke.

Keystone, Amador, started in 1852, water; Director Mr. Manning.

Amat, Ione ville, started in 1854, water; Director Mr. Mason.

Harberville, Harberville, started in 1852, water; Director Mr. Davis.

Eureka, Sutter, started in 1852, water; Director Mr. Murray.

Union, Sutter, started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Tibbetts.

Badger, Sutter, started in 1854, water; Director, Mr. Haycraft.

Oneida, Jackson, started in 1852, steam; Director ——

Grass Valley, Grass Valley, started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Smith.

Dreytown, Dreytown, started in 1853, water; Director Mr. Mahoney.

Palmer & Co.'s Dry Creek, started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Williams.

Potted Q. M. Co., Dreytown, started in 1855, water, 12 stamps; Director, A. C. Bintcom.

Butte, Butte City, started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Hallaher.

Calaveras County.

Foote and Lindsay, Mokelumne River, started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Lindsay.

Lone Star, S. F. Mokelumne River, started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Wade.

Texas, North and Middle Forks Mokelumne started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Raymond.

Wood Bros., North & Middle Forks, Mokelumne, started in 1855, water; Director ——

Carson Hill Q. M. Co. Carson Hill, Steam, (now building.) Messrs. Jones, Lane & Co., proprietors.

☞ We learn that a new mill is to be built in this County near Mokelumne Hill, built in 1852, which was then thought to be a failure, has recently been started again under very flattering auspices. We should be pleased to learn its name Director, &c.

New Mine, now building on Slate Gulch, five miles from Camps second Branch. Clark & Gass proprietors.

Tuolumne County.

Experimental, Columbia, started in 1854, water; Director Mr. Crowell.

Wheeler & Co., Big Oak Flat, started in 1855, water; Director Mr. Wheeler.

Mariposa County.

Marble Springs, North Fork, Merced, started in 1851 water; Director Mr. Wheeler.

Washington, Quartzburg, started in 1852, steam; Director ——

Ortega, Bear Valley, started in 1852, steam; Director ——

Agua Fria, Agua Fria, started in 1852, steam; Director Mr. Atwood.

Santa Cruz.

New Mill near Santa Cruz, water, 6 stamps; Director ——

Kern River.

New Mill at Keesville, erected in 1853, water; Director Capt. Maltby.

☞ Some 50 Arastras are now in successful operations in this vicinity.

Stetson's Self-Operating Amalgamator.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has N only empowered W. H. Kerr, of Grass Valley, to act as Agent for the sale of "Stetson's self-operating Amalgamator," for Nevada County. All sales made by him will be duly acknowledged by the Subscriber,

A. M. STETSON.

Grass Valley, May 20, 1856.

☞ From the above it will be seen that the Subscriber has been appointed Agent for the sale of the "Self-Operating Amalgamator" for this County. Any letters addressed to him in relation to it, will be promptly attended to.

Although he has no power to sell or permit to use, out-side of this County, still, for the sake of bringing into general notice every where what he deems an invention, which will greatly facilitate the development of an important branch of the mineral resources of the country, he will be most happy to give any information upon the subject that may be sought for by persons, who are beyond the limits of any local agent, or who may not be able to communicate direct with the inventor. Letters addressed to residents of this State, or in any of the Atlantic States, who may be desirous to procure one of the machines, can be put in the way of doing so, by addressing the subscriber. The machine is made both of cast iron and of wood. It will occupy a space of from four to six cubic feet, according to the number of stamps, which it may be desirable to use. When made of cast iron it will weigh about twenty-five lbs. to each stamp—if wood, about half that weight. Six or eight stamps are considered a "set," to which any additional number can be added at the option of the purchaser. The sale of a right includes the privilege of using as many stamps as the purchaser may see fit to attach to one battery, or one set of batteries—connected.

☞ For further particulars address

W. H. KERR,
Grass Valley, Nevada Co., California, or A. M. STETSON, San Francisco.

The machine is now in operation at the following mills:—Helvetia & Lafayette, Empire, Boston, (Rocky Bar), Crossett & Reed, Grass Valley, Whigham's Nevada, and at the N. C. Gold & Copper Mining Co., at Rough & Ready.

WELLS, FARGO & CO'S
EXPRESS
Banking Exchange Office.
CAPITAL, $600,000.

Opposite Beatty House, Main St., Grass Valley.

Gold Dust, Bullion and Packages sent to all parts of the United States and Europe, by all the principal Places in California, insured.

Sight Bills of Exchange drawn on the principal cities in the United States and Europe.

Checks on Sacramento and San Francisco, free of charge.

Highest price paid in coin for Gold Dust.

Having facilities equal to that of ANY OTHER IN THE WORLD, we are fully prepared to do it QUICK and CORRECT, and in a business committed to our charge.

WELLS, FARGO & CO.,
A. DELANO, Agent at Grass Valley.

May 1, 1856. 6m17

Pacific Express Co.,
Daily Express for Treasure, &c.,

Letters to Sacramento, San Francisco, Stockton and Marysville, and all parts of the Northern and Southern States. Treasure, Parcels and Letters Insured and forwarded to all parts of the Atlantic States in charge of a regular messenger by every Steamer.

☞ Collections of every kind will be promptly attended to.

S. BRIGHAM, Agt.

M. Michelson, books and stationery....2,000
Williamson & Dawley.....4,000
Palm r & Church, wagon shop.....2,500
C. W. Young, building and jewelry....10,000
P. Hendrickson.....40,000
I. C. Harmer, Oriental Hotel.....5,000
J. H. Peters, building and furniture...5,000
Yates & Tallman, hardware.....12,000
Judge Caswell, dwelling, furniture, silver ware. Law and miscellaneous Library. Masonic Hall buildings, &c., 20,000
C Josephson.....10,000
Mr Stroud.....7,000
Hiram Shirpser, dry goods.....4,000
Franz, brick building.....3,000
F. Shelhora, brewery and bakery.....5,000
Ed. Kelsey, 3 brick buildings.....25,000
J. Rinns brick and wooden buildings. 10,000
Kidd & Knox, buildere, &c.....60,000
G W Kidd papers and county orders. 50,000
Jesse Wall & Bro. grocers.....25,000
Lewis & Rosenbaum, boots & shoes....7,000
J. B. Lobdell, stable and house.....6,000
Bain & Scranton, houses, tools, &c....5,000
E. F. Thompson, house and furniture..3,000
S. Connell, store and dwelling.....5,000
Joe Chambers.....1,500
Sandford & Son, building.....15,000
p. Phelps, Peonix Saloon.....3,000
Dr. H. N. Ashmore, Saloon, Furniture. 3,000
G. Wright, American bakery.....2,000
Hilles & Co. Virginia House.....6,000
Dr Bicknell.....500
W Martin, blacksmith shop.....1,200
Q Rice, dwelling.....2,000
Benj Young, colored.....2,000
Julia Bergsin, do.....1,000
Isabella Walker, do. do.....1,700
O'Connel bakery.....5,000
Alex Williams.....500
Avery, Broad street House.....2,500
Methodist p roonage.....1,000
Marlow, house and furniture.....1,000
J F Dondeles.....1,500
Wm B Norman.....2,500
Grove House.....1,200
Keystone House.....5,000
J Hoel, Whitehall.....4,000
Wm D McCloud, six building.....7,000
Wm Bennett.....800
Ball Alley.....2,000
French provision store.....4,000
71 others.....85,000
Whitmarsh & Bro. carriage shop.....1,000
Belden & Fairbanks, shop and tools.....1,000
Geo Thomas, shop and fixtures.....500
Barber & Talmer, building and shop.....2,500
D W Muff, cigar shop.....1,500
O P Blacksmith, building.....1,200
Temperance Hall.....1,500
Waite & McChesney blacksmith shop.....1,500
Wm Daniels, house, &c.....1,200
A Barsh, dwelling, &c.....2,000
King & Son, bowling saloon.....2,000
M Levi, restaurant.....1,000
O D Stone, building and groceries.....800
Kline & Meyer, liquors.....800
McFarland & Caldwell, books &c.....1,500
P Prosser & Co., berber's saloon.....1,000
——Gugard, building.....1,600
George Downey.....1,000
A G Fier, merchant.....3,000
Downing & Bess building and goods.....2,000
John Long.....600
Jesse Cuff, dwelling.....500
Smith & Murray.....1,500
J N Stone.....700
Marlow & Cohn, cutlery segars &c.....1,000
Kelly & Waters.....1,000
Churchill & Arnold, shop &c.....800
Masonic Order.....1,000
Odd Fellows.....2,000
J B Van Hagan, dwelling &c.....1,000
J F Book, shore store.....2,000
Geo Lippard U. S bakery.....1,000
Madam Falco furniture, liquor &c.....1,500
Dr Bitterschedt.....1,800
M Preston, dwelling.....1,000
L Bowman, goods.....2,000
G Graft, house and furniture.....2,500
R B Bonner.....1,500
Langton & Co's Express.....500
I Samuel, cigars, &c.....1,000
J S Curtis, grocery &c.....2,500
Cook & Coburn, painters.....2,000
J A Cress, building.....1,000
D C Stinson.....1,500
Sandford & Williams.....1,000
E D Hoyt, dwelling and furniture.....1,500
Mary Coffrel.....1,000
John Crawford, dwelling, &c.....800
H Mills, house.....300
J Richardson, building.....1,000
J H Keyes.....1,500
Frank Guild, building and furniture.....2,000
H W Galvin, harness and saddlery.....1,000
Wilson & McGill.....800
W Caldwell, buildings.....1,400
W H Taylor, furniture.....1,000
W P Harrington, saloon and furniture...1,700
W S Stiles, machinery and goods.....2,500
Mrs Waters.....1,500
Alex Woodrich, fruit store.....700
David Marsh, boots and shoes.....1,000
Dr Rent, dwelling and office.....1,500
James Churchman, furniture.....700
W S Gregory, dwelling.....1,000
C M White.....2,500
S M ers.....1,500
S A Thomas.....1,500
John Bigbie.....1,200
S Rothschild.....1,000
A R Jenkins.....500
——
Sum Total.....1,449,700

BODIES FOUND.—The bodies of Messrs. Hagan, Fletcher, Johnson and Pearson have been found. It will be recollected that they were all in Davis' Banking House, the three last named in the second story. They were all found in the cellar, under the rear of the house, their bodies nearly consumed, and recognized only by various metallic articles which they had about them. It appears that they had all collected together and lay side by side on the earthy bottom of the cellar, face downward. They must without doubt have smothered long before the fire could have reached them, and doubtless died comparatively easy death. The watch of Mr Hagan, was found among his remains but little injured. It run till half-past six. A small fragment of the remains of Mr. Yates were found in his store and interred on Sunday. Mr. Hendrieson's remains have also been found and interred. All that were found of the remains of the person who perished in the Polka Saloon were a few charred bones.

The Dead.

We most deeply sympathize with our friends in Nevada in the loss of so many of their best citizens by the late disastrous fire. With each of those who perished in Davis' Banking House, we have long been on terms of daily social intercourse.

A truer, more upright or worthy man than A. J. HAGAN, the Banker, is seldom found in any community. Possessing a thorough business education, a man of the strictest integrity, and always prompt, he had won for himself, during his long residence in Nevada, the confidence and esteem of the entire community. He leaves numerous friends and relatives in the State.

No one ever knew JAY JOHNSON but to love and respect him. His sudden and untimely death is lamented by all, old and young. Few men could have fallen whose loss would be more sincerely deplored than this.

S. W. FLETCHER, was a young man of much promise, a graduate of Yale College, and just entering upon life with bright and happy prospects. His fall has been as terrible as sudden. He leaves two brothers in this county.

WM. B. PEARSON, was a Printer, and for a long time has been employed in the Democrat office. We have worked many a day by his side, and little dreamed that we should ever be called upon to make so sad a record of his end. He was a young man of irreproachable character.

With the others who perished in the conflagration, we never had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance.

PETER HENDRICSON was one of the most enterprising merchants of Nevada, with whom we were well acquainted by reputation. He leaves a brother in Nevada.

JOHN YATES was a merchant, and a partner with Mr. D. S. Tallman in the Hardware business. A small portion only of his remains were found and buried the next day after the fire.

We hope and trust that it may never again devolve upon us to make so sad a record as we have here written.

Aid for the Sufferers.

Of course in so sweeping a conflagration as this there must be many who have lost their all, and who must be reduced to absolute and immediate want. The citizens of the adjoining towns as elsewhere noticed, came promptly to the aid of the sufferers. And so soon as time was given for action, other and more distant places responded to the call of humanity. San Francisco and Sacramento are moving in the matter, and will in a few days, if they have not already done so, tendered valuable and substantial aid.

Rough & Ready, Iowa Hill, Cherokee, San Juan and other places have done nobly.

Immediately on the reception, at Rough & Ready, of the news of the fire of Nevada two wagon loads of provisions were at once collected and despatched to the aid of the sufferers. $320 in cash was also subscribed the next day.

The citizens of Grass Valley, the morning after the fire, distributed 400 loaves of bread among the families and those who were destitute. As we go to press several gentlemen are engaged in collecting further contributions. From the impoverished condition of Grass Valley, (having so recently suffered from a similar calamity,) and for some other causes, the contribution of this town has not amounted to as much as it otherwise would have done.

The citizens of Cherokee raised five hundred dollars, and San Juan and other towns and communities in the vicinity contributed liberally.

We learn that the Grass Valley Committee have just forwarded $161 in cash to the Nevada Relief Committee. A considerable amount of provisions has already been sent over and distributed. Mr. Thos. Findley alone has distributed about fifty dollars worth of provisions. More will probably go up. The citizens of Grass Valley have tendered to the Committee the free use of their houses in this place for all who are needy and without shelter. Rough & Ready has done the same.

Rowe & Smith, the proprietors of the Pioneer Circus, have tendered a benefit to the Relief Committee, which is to come off on Thursday next. The entire Company have volunteered their services on the occasion, and the whole proceeds of the evening will be placed in the hands of the Committee.

Further particulars from Nevada.

Tuesday, July 22d. The funeral of S. W. Fletcher took place to-day at ten o'clock. The remains of Peter Hendrickson were found at four o'clock to-day, in the ruins of his supposed fire proof building. A watch on his person was uninjured, which stopped one quarter past seven. The bones of another person were found in Kelsey's brick building, which are not identified.

Messrs. Gray & Allen have let a contract to rebuild the United States Hotel, 58 by 100 feet, two stories high, and of brick.

As an indication that no loss of confidence is manifested in the growth and permanence of the town, it is stated that Kid & Knox sold a lot on Pine street, 37 by 80 feet, to-day, for $4,500.

Some quarrels have occurred relative to the size and ownership of lots, one of which resulted in the discharge of pistols to-day; nobody seriously hurt.

An ordinance was passed yesterday appointing a City Surveyor, and another authorizing him to lay out new streets from road, intersecting Main, at the junction of Commercial and Washington streets; and the other from Broad to Commercial, above Pine. He was also empowered to straighten the streets, which is very much needed.

One of the most remarkable incidents of foresight and self-possession in a woman is given of Mrs. Frisbie at the fire. She was occupying the upper part of the building adjoining and connected with the Journal office. In the hurry she was shut in by persons on the outside, alone, in the dark, and fully realizing her situation, she tried to open the iron shutters, but was unable to remove them. She tried one she had filled three weeks ago, having a presentment of such an emergency, which yielded, and she escaped by a ladder, first examining a dozen bed rooms to see that no person remained.

THE COUNTY RECORDS.—One of the heaviest losses at the recent fire at Nevada, is the total destruction of the entire Records of the County, all of which have been consumed. To repair this incalculable loss nothing remains but the files of the *Democrat* and *Journal*, which may be found scattered through the county and State. Those belonging to the several offices, and all in Nevada were consumed, and the only hope is that some person in the State may have preserved one or a portion of a file, which, with such papers as may be forwarded from different quarters will make up a complete file, and partially supply the place of the records. Persons who may have copies of the papers will therefore make an estimable donation by forwarding them to the publishers at Nevada. The legal and other proceedings published in these papers may be of much service to parties interested, and it is highly desirable to obtain as perfect a file as possible of each.

Monday, July 23. We have just returned from a trip to Nevada. The scene of bustle and activity exhibited in that place almost surpasses belief. None but a Californian can begin to form an adequate conception of it. The idea of burning down an entire city like Nevada, with the absolute *wiping out* of three-fifths of its entire valuation one day, and the next seeing that city rise again, as if by magic from its ashes, can be realized nowhere else than in California. The scene now enacting at Nevada is purely Californian in its character.

There are at this present writing over 200 buildings in progress of erection on the burnt district. Three entirely new brick buildings are going up, and every one which was destroyed is in progress of reconstruction or repair.

The U. S. Hotel will be immediately rebuilt of brick, two stories high—54 feet on Main and 108 on Pine street.

Directly opposite Kidd & Knox are putting up a brick designed to cover the entire ground of Davis' old brick and the two wooden houses on each side of it. This building will be 77 by 60.

C. Wilson Hill, Esq., is also putting up a brick dwelling house on the hill near the Court House.

THE COURTS.

In order to repair as far as may be the loss which the Courts and County has sustained by the destruction of the County papers, the several Courts have held an informal session, and appointed a Committee from the Bar to prepare rules and regulations by which the records and papers of the County may be substituted, and by which the Courts themselves may be governed in the extraordinary and peculiar position in which they are placed. This Committee has had several sessions, but has not yet decided upon any plan which is acceptable to the Courts and Bar. In the mean time of course all Court proceedings are stayed.

The District Court, we are informed by Judge Searles, will adjourn over to the next term.

The Court of Sessions will meet on the 1st Monday in August, at which time all parties now under indictments, the papers in relation to which have been destroyed, will be re-indicted, and proceedings commence *de novo*.

☞ The County Clerk's office will soon be established in a temporary wooden building now in process of construction near the Court House.

Geo. Lewis has been admitted to bail in the sum of $20,000. We have not learned what disposition has been made of the balance of the prisoners.

A portion of the material for the Journal office has already arrived, and the paper will appear in the course of the coming week.

Mr. Anderson, of the Democrat, is still in a very precarious condition. He is receiving every attention, however, which kind and sympathizing friends and relatives can bestow.

Mr. Geo. A. Young, who was burned at the same time with him is rapidly recovering. They are brothers-in-law, and with Mrs. Young and Mrs. Caswell barely escaped with their lives. Mrs. C. with almost superhuman efforts escaped from the burning house with her two children, one under each arm, and the youngest but ten days old.

There were many other hair-breadth escapes. Among which we may mention that of Capt. Day, who after being completely surrounded with the fire escaped with one other man who'se name we have not learned, by running through a narrow street, upon both sides of which the buildings though fallen, were yet fiercely burning. He ran thus for a distance of upwards of fifty rods.

ROUGH & READY.—The citizens of Rough & Ready came forward nobly in aid of the sufferers at Nevada and about 3500 lbs of provisions, consisting of Flour, Potatoes, Bacon, Pork, Cheese, Crackers, Tea, Coffee, Sugar, &c was promptly contributed and sent up.—Also $320, in cash. A friend has been kind enough to send us a list of the donors. Want of space compels us to defer the communication. We append a few of the donors:

S. M. Gilham,	$25,00	W. C. Ault,	$25,00
George Gephard	15,00	John Williams,	5,00
Stephen Owen,	5,00	A. Girard,	5,00
L. Gaupbert,	10,00	J. & F. Montgomery	50,00
E. W. Roberts,	15,00	L. A. Crabtree,	5,00
Jas. Dougherty,	5,00	Comstock & Co.,	15,00
Kean & Co.,	30,00	L. Walling,	5,00
E. B. Winans,	5,00	Little & Barber,	15,00
Warren & Davis,	4,00	Bishop & Niman,	5,00
J. N. Vanhagan	25,00		

RELIEF COMMITTEE.—At a meeting of citizens of Nevada held yesterday afternoon on Main street, it was voted to appoint a Committee of nine to receive and distribute such funds as may be contributed for the needy and destitute of that city.

I. Williamson, A. B. Gregory, A. T. Laird, P. G. Womack, Jesse Wall Dr. W. G. Alban, J. R. Whitney, —— Heywood, and C. Kent, were appointed upon that Committee.